

FBIS

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PASTUKHOV TERMS U.S. ARMS POLICY 'MADNESS'

PM220855 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Mar 82 p 3

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[Political Observer Nikolay Pastukhov article under the rubric "A View of Events":
"Madness as a Policy"]

[Text] People in various countries are more and more often asking the reasonable questions: Why is the international situation so alarming just now? What is the reason for this? They are aware that the world situation depends largely on the policy of the USSR and the United States. That is why the Australian members of the peace movement and the Japanese writers recently appealed to the leaders of those two states to put an end to the nuclear arms race and do everything possible to create an atmosphere of international trust and cooperation.

Washington, as has become traditional, always remains deaf and dumb in the face of such appeals. As for our country, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev immediately replied to the authors of these appeals and clearly set out the Soviet stance on all the topical problems which concern mankind today. Here is what our country is prepared to do for the sake of preserving and strengthening peace:

To adopt urgent measures to curtail the nuclear arms race and first and foremost to secure a rapid, constructive result at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe;

To resume talks with the United States at any time on strategic nuclear arms limitation and reduction, and also on banning chemical weapons (the dialogue was broken off, let us recall, by the American side);

To continue at any time the talks with the United States on limiting military activity in the Indian Ocean region, which were also broken off by Washington;

To extend similar measures to the Pacific, resolving the problem on terms of equality and identical security;

To ratify at any time the 1974 treaty on limiting underground nuclear weapons tests -- the United States is delaying its ratification;

To sign as soon as possible an agreement on a complete and universal ban on nuclear weapons tests -- it was the USSR which initiated talks on this question;

To immediately begin talks involving all states which possess nuclear weapons and other interested countries with a view to reaching agreement on ending the production of all types of nuclear weapons, and limiting and, eventually, completely eliminating stockpiles;

To examine without prejudice and to study in detail all disarmament proposals made by the other side, assessing them by a single yardstick -- the extent to which they accord with the task of preventing war and strengthening peace and correspond with the principle of equality and identical security.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's answers to the Australian members of the peace movement and the large group of Japanese writers have been the subject of wide comment by the mass media everywhere. The fact that these appeals were also addressed to U.S. President R. Reagan has not escaped readers. But where is his answer, they ask. Where are his proposals aimed at preserving peace? Alas! There is no trace of them. Washington continues to put out militarist calls and threats against Poland, Cuba, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Afghanistan, Kampuchea and other countries, and the arms race goes on.

Washington's propaganda machine "argues" new rounds in the arms race on the basis of the USSR's alleged military superiority and, under cover of this myth, calls for the rearming of the United States and NATO with new means for the mass destruction of people, in particular the medium-range nuclear missiles and neutron weapons which the Pentagon intends to deploy in West Europe. The United States is trying in this way to disrupt the military equilibrium which has become established in the world and is seeking unilateral advantages in its planned "limited nuclear war" on European territory.

But it is now clear to everyone that any "limited" nuclear conflict will act as the detonator for a universal conflagration whose flames would spare nobody. Suffice it to say that /the explosive yield of just one thermonuclear warhead is dozens of times greater than the total yield of all the explosions which have taken place in wars throughout mankind's history!/[passage between slantlines printed in boldface] The consequences of various types of nuclear strikes were studied at an international conference held in March 1981 of "International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War," in which prominent scientists from many countries took part. It was noted at the conference, for instance, that if a 1-megaton bomb is exploded in the air over a city with a population of 1 million, 300,000 people will die directly as a result of the blast, burns and radiation, and another 400,000 will suffer from the consequences of the nuclear explosion.

That is why our country submitted a draft declaration to the 36th UN General Assembly session solemnly proclaiming that states which are the first to use nuclear weapons will be committing the gravest crime against mankind. Only the United States and its closest allies did not support the decision adopted by the United Nations on the basis of the soviet initiative!

Real awareness of the terrible danger which is hanging over the planet through the fault of Washington's insane policy is giving rise to a growing protest movement among the broadest circles of the international public against the militarist forces' criminal course. This movement is growing even inside the United States.

"I don't understand how I could have voted for Reagan; I was wrong. If things go on as they are now, in a couple of years Lansing, where I live, will become a ghost town," says American worker (J.Seydelman), who lives in a large industrial center in Michigan.

His words express very well the growing disappointment among Americans with the Washington administration's activity.

As a result, as is indicated by the results of a public opinion poll carried out by the New York TIMES and CBS television, in January of this year the number of Americans condemning the President's policy increased by 20 percent compared with last April.

"Growing unemployment, sharp cuts in appropriations for social needs, record military spending and a federal budget deficit -- that is the Reagan administration's track record," it is noted in a statement by the United Labor Union of Electrical and Radio Industry Workers. Describing the present administration's course as "irresponsible," it notes that the huge buildup in military appropriations planned by the Reagan administration will have a "devastating effect" on the American economy.

A "public forum for disarmament" was held in New York just the other day. The peoples of the world must pool their efforts and stop what is the most terrible crime in modern history -- the arms race, former U.S. Attorney General R. Clark said, opening the discussion. He demanded that first and foremost Washington stop production of nuclear weapons and resume strategic arms limitation talks with the Soviet Union.

The arms race is undermining U.S. national security and economic development, stated (G. Adams), representative of the Council for Economic Priorities. However, despite that fact, the present administration is continuing to step up the already excessive military expenditure and to fan militarist hysteria. One has the impression, he stressed, that Americans' lives are in the hands of irresponsible political dabblers who are pushing the country toward nuclear catastrophe. "The administration," he said, "is trying to frighten us with the mythical 'Soviet threat,' but the true threat is the arms race."

A total of 19 senators and 120 congressmen, including Senator M. Hatfield (Republican, Oregon) and Senator Edward Kennedy (Democrat, Massachusetts, and brother of the assassinated U.S. President John Kennedy), came out in support of a resolution calling on the United States and the USSR to reach agreement on freezing arsenals of nuclear weapons and subsequently reducing them on both sides.

In this connection Edward Kennedy stated: Today the spiral of the arms race is spinning toward nuclear catastrophe, which could mean the annihilation of mankind itself. Among those speaking in support of the resolution were A. Harriman, former U.S. Ambassador to the USSR; Paul Warnke, former director of the American Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and J. Armstrong, president of the National Council of Churches. How did the Washington administration react to this resolution? With a harsh bellow from Secretary of State A. Haig:

As for our country, "the Soviet state's policy is an effective counterweight to the desire on the part of aggressive circles of imperialism to foist on the world a new round of the arms race, to constantly whip up the international atmosphere and to undermine the foundations of mutually advantageous international ties. It is deeply humanist, is open and democratic in nature and accords with the interests of the peoples of the USSR, the fraternal socialist countries and all peace-loving mankind," It is noted in the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the 60th Anniversary of the USSR's Formation."

The threat to peace and universal security emanates from the present American administration, that champion of the U.S. military-industrial complex interests, which has elevated madness to the rank of its official policy.

OPPOSITION TO REAGAN ARMS POLICY VIEWED

LD222018 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 22 Mar 82

["Protests of American Public" -- TASS headline; by TASS observer Leonid Ponomarev]

[Text] Moscow, 22 Mar, (TASS) -- All over the United States, from the states of New England to California, the movement is mounting which demands that the Reagan administration should freeze at the present level on agreement with the USSR the nuclear arsenals of both sides as an initial step toward genuine nuclear disarmament, more than 500 thousand Americans in California signed an appeal to urge the stoppage by the United States and the Soviet Union of the production and tests of nuclear weapons and renunciation of their use.

Similar demands are expressed by the movement which is spreading in Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Maine, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington states. According to the newspaper New York TIMES: The opposition to the Reagan's policy is spreading beyond universities and churches to press bodies, American citizens. It should be noted that the opposition to the Reagan policy is expressed by congressmen too. More than 140 congressmen already declared for freezing nuclear potentials of the USA and the USSR.

Reagan's dangerous course at the confrontation with the Soviet Union, at balancing on the brink of nuclear war causes serious concern even in his own party. A three-day conference of the organization uniting Republicans holding posts in federal and state bodies was held last week in Easton, Maryland. The participants in the conference adopted a resolution urging President Reagan to continue a dialogue with the Soviet Union on nuclear arms reduction. As is known, Washington resorts to all sorts of delays and procrastinations in the matter.

The problem of nuclear arms limitation agitates particularly West European countries whose public declares against the United States' plans to deploy Pershing-2 missiles and cruise missiles on the European Continent. Large demonstrations of fighters for peace and nuclear disarmament are spreading in Canada, Japan, Australia, that is wherever U.S. armaments represent a direct threat to peoples.

Contrary to the demands of the world public, the Reagan administration as the U.S. press notes, worked out the plan of a new, ever more horrible increase of the production of nuclear warheads in 5-8 years ahead by approximately 17 thousand units in addition to the already existing 25 thousand units.

The Soviet Union holds quite a different stand. It urges the United States' Government to agree on the principle of parity and equal security about a substantial reduction of nuclear armaments in Europe (by many hundreds of units) and declares for ridding Europe of nuclear weapons, both medium-range and tactical weapons. The USSR decided to introduce unilaterally a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear armaments in the European parts of the USSR and to halt the replacement of old missiles with more up-to-date ones. In addition to this, the Soviet Union also intends to reduce a certain number of its medium-range missiles on its own initiative already this year if there is no new aggravation of the international situation. So it is now up to Washington to respond.

IZVESTIYA ON U.S. REFUSAL TO HEED BREZHNEV

LD221812 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 22 Mar 82

["To Lessen Nuclear Threat" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 22 Mar, TASS -- "Serious proposals require a serious answer. This is particularly important when the lessening of nuclear threat, the future of our civilization is the point of the matter", IZVESTIYA writes today in connection with the new proposals for the strengthening of peace and international security advanced by Leonid Brezhnev.

The newspaper points out that many Americans received with interest Leonid Brezhnev's statement that the Soviet Union decided to set a good example, to introduce unilaterally a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear armaments in the European part of the USSR and intends to decrease on its own initiative a number of its medium-range missiles.

Attention was attracted also by Soviet proposals aimed at strengthening confidence among states.

But by all indications the Republican administration is not going to take a single step meeting half-way the Soviet Union.

Whenever they have an opportunity, U.S. officials are not averse to talking about their striving to consolidate peace, to press for reduction, even considerable reduction, of nuclear armaments, IZVESTIYA writes. They expected that this talk will reassure Americans who are concerned over the administration's aggressive foreign policy and will also reassure allies who fear they might get in trouble because of the inordinate bellicosity of their senior partner. The refusal of the White House to heed the proposals that are really aimed at the consolidation of peace and the international security show what these declarations are worth.

LEVIN COMMENTS ON NATO COLORADO SPRINGS MEETING

LD222316 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1916 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] Defense ministers of the NATO states have gathered in Colorado Springs for a 2-day conference of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group. Our commentator, Viktor Levin, is at the microphone:

[Begin recording] At the conference of the NATO strategists, as is reported by the U.S. press, there will be a discussion on the new Soviet proposals made a week ago by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. An indicative fact. It is evidence that the cowboy attack by the highest representatives of the U.S. administration on the Soviet peace initiatives in order to brush aside the major proposals quickly has caused a reaction opposite to the one that Washington was counting on. The hasty rejection not only did not add to the authority of U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger but dealt a blow to whatever remains of that authority. The United States, seemingly, has understood the need for a more subtle approach. However, does the discussion of the USSR's proposals directed at limiting nuclear weapons in Europe by the NATO nuclear planning group mean that they are ready over there to take up a constructive attitude?

If one starts from the statements made by the defense ministers taking part in that group's meeting, and so far there are no other grounds for conclusions, then one should not expect a businesslike approach.

In NATO circles even now, at a time when the Soviet Union has once again convincingly (?demonstrated) its striving for mutually acceptable agreements, they are continuing stubbornly to (?assert) that until the USSR accepts the Reagan concept of the zero option there will be no progress. However, inasmuch as the zero option as presented by the U.S. President is nothing other than a demand for unilateral disarmament by the Soviet Union, it is obvious that those who are putting the matter so bluntly do not want an agreement on the only possible basis for equality and equal security of the parties.

It is not out of place to note that the hypocrisy of the U.S. position is being understood by increasingly broad circles of Europeans. The speech on FRG television, for example, by Eppler, member of the Social Democratic Party of Germany Executive Presidium, was indicative. He said the following, and I quote: From the very beginning it was clear to me that it was far more important to the Americans to install their Pershing II missiles in the FRG, which are capable of reaching Moscow in 5 minutes, than to achieve a reduction in Soviet SS-20 missiles, which can hit targets in West Europe.

This approach is being maintained today. The fact that the representatives of the Washington administration hastily rejected the new Soviet proposals proceeds from this approach. If the United States now agrees to a discussion of the Soviet initiative at the nuclear planning group session, then it is doing so, as far as one can judge, only for tactical [konyunkturnya] reasons, with the aim of creating the appearance of a businesslike and serious exchange of views. One must in no way expect a genuinely constructive attitude from the most hawkish body of NATO.

PRAVDA CRITICIZES UK DECISION ON TRIDENT II

PM221351 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 82 p 5

[Arkadiy Maslennikov dispatch under "Commentator's Column" rubric: "Under Fire"]

[Text] London -- The British Government has announced its plans for rearming the country's nuclear submarine fleet with the latest U.S. Trident II nuclear system rather than the Trident I originally envisaged. Defending these plans, Defense Secretary J. Nott told parliament that the decision to arm the British Navy with longer-range and more destructive missiles had been prompted by the need to standardize British and U.S. nuclear weapons and to guarantee Britain's security until the year 2000 and beyond.

These arguments have failed to convince a broad spectrum of British opinion. All the parliamentary opposition parties have roundly condemned the Tory plans. If elected, shadow cabinet spokesman J. Silkin said, Labor will cancel the Trident program since it escalates the arms race, is contrary to the spirit of the nuclear weapons nonproliferation treaty and in fact weakens rather than strengthening the country's security. The government's decision, Labor member D. Davis told the House, completely ignores the international agreements and talks aimed at limiting the arms race.

The conservatives' new militarist program has come in for sharp and reasoned criticism from the British press. "The wrong choice, the wrong time" is the liberal GUARDIAN's verdict on the Thatcher government's decision. From every standpoint this decision does not hold up to criticism and merely testifies to the irresponsibility of those who made it, the newspaper's editorial commentary states. The cost of the Trident program, which is currently put at 7.5 billion pounds sterling, not allowing for inflation, will, as the newspaper puts it, be an "enormous burden" on the country's economy.

The new weapon is also unjustified from a strategic standpoint since it puts Britain in real danger of nuclear annihilation.

The Trident program is causing serious concern among the British people. It is no coincidence that public opinion polls conducted in recent months show that in their millions more and more Britons are rejecting the Tories' militarist policy.

GLEBOV VIEWS BEIJING REACTION TO ARMS MORATORIUM

OW230608 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1430 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Glebov commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, the Beijing leaders are trying time and time again, futilely, to prove something, as they have failed to do on so many occasions in the past, that is, that the Soviet Union is seemingly working on a plan of aggression against Western Europe. Speaking at a meeting of Soviet trade unions in Moscow, Comrade Brezhnev submitted a unilateral moratorium proposal on intermediate nuclear forces in Europe. The Beijing leaders have once again used this proposal as a cause for gossip to condemn the Soviet Union for attempting to threaten Europe.

As we all know, the Soviet leaders have decided to unilaterally freeze the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in the European part of the Soviet Union. If the world situation remains unchanged, certain numbers of medium-range missiles in this region will be reduced by the Soviet Union in 1982. Acting in accordance with the spirit of anti-Soviet tradition, the Beijing leaders have adopted all possible means to oppose this Soviet proposal, a proposal which has been considered by the broad masses of people to be a concrete step by the Soviet Union to maintain peace. They slandered this proposal by saying that the Soviet Union is now trying again to lower the people's vigilance and make them neglect the importance of military buildup so that the Soviet Union can make full preparations for aggression.

In point of fact, such slander not only contradicts the essence of the Soviet proposal but runs counter to the constructive idea of the proposal. However, apparently the Beijing leaders are not embarrassed by their own lies, which they fabricated to cover up the truth. If a certain country is preparing to launch a military attack on a neighboring country, could this country reduce its own missile and nuclear forces unilaterally? Is there such a logic? In this connection, I would like to point out that, at present, the Beijing leaders attempt to slander the Soviet policies on the question of war and peace. Beijing's slanders, however, have proved the peace-loving nature of the Soviet proposal and also made it clear that the Soviet proposal indeed conforms with the struggle against the danger of war. Why has Beijing taken a hostile stand against the Soviet proposal? This is because the Chinese leaders have long been attempting to undermine detente in Europe and cause conflicts among the major powers.

For instance, the Beijing authorities have actually supported the decision of U.S. President Reagan to start manufacturing the neutron bomb, a new generation of neutron weapon with tremendous destructive power. What does this mean? Although the Chinese leaders have repeatedly paid lipservice to cherishing peace, what actual steps have they taken? [Words indistinct] as you all know that the Beijing authorities' stand on neutron bomb is most absurd. Actually the Beijing leaders have tried their very best to serve the strategic interests of imperialism and act as an accomplice of the Western militarists in undermining the progress of detente. Do the Beijing leaders really know the danger of their own policy? We must understand that should a nuclear conflict ever occur in Europe, this conflict will inevitably become a global one. This also means that China will be involved in this conflict and suffer miserable consequences. However, it is quite possible that the Beijing leaders are not disturbed by the horrible prospect that hundreds of millions of Chinese people may die in a nuclear conflict. Furthermore, we must also understand that during an interview 3 years ago with (Hollister), representative of a U.S. news organizations, Deng Xiaoping said: China is very poor.

In the event of the outbreak of nuclear war, we have nothing to lose in particular. Obviously Deng Xiaoping, the outstanding student of Chairman Mao, has failed to take into account the fate of the Chinese compatriots.

DAVYDOV ARTICLE VIEWS NUCLEAR-FREE EUROPE

AU121240 East Berlin HORIZONT in German No 10/1982 pp 8-9

[Article by Valeriy F. Davydov, leading scientific staff member of the United States of America and Canada Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences and candidate of historic sciences, headlined "From the Idea to the Reality of a Nuclear-Free Europe"]

[Text] The U.S. plans to deploy 572 new nuclear medium-range missile systems in Western Europe have moved proposals for having nuclear-free zones in Europe or the entire European Continent free of nuclear arms more than ever before into the focus of the public's interests. The initiative of Urho Kekkonen, former president of Finland, to form a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe has been on the table since 1963. The Soviet Union has repeatedly declared that it supports Finland's proposal in principle. However, practical implementation was impaired from the beginning by the United States and other NATO countries. The answers by Leonid Brezhnev to questions of the correspondent of the Finnish paper SUOMEN SOTSIALIDEMOKRAATTI of 27 June 1981 and to the FRG news magazine DER SPEIGEL of 4 November 1981 were met with great interest in the government circles of the North European countries. They confirmed once again that the USSR takes a positive attitude toward the idea of transforming northern Europe into a nuclear-free zone and is trying to constructively discuss the practical implementation of this idea. The Soviet Union is ready to undertake the obligation never to use nuclear arms against the countries of northern Europe which become participants of the nuclear-free zone -- that is, renounce the production, acquisition and deployment of nuclear arms on their territories. Such a guarantee by the Soviet Union could be laid down either by concluding a multilateral agreement or by bilateral agreements with each participating country of the zone. The Soviet Union does not make its obligation dependent on a positive attitude of the other nuclear powers to the zone, although it is understandable that the participating countries of the zone would live in greater security if the NATO nuclear powers were also to guarantee that they respect the nuclear-free status. The reference of Leonid Brezhnev to the possibility "of examining the question of several other measures which concern our own part of the territory neighboring the nuclear-free zone in northern Europe" was met with particular interest in the northern European countries.

At the Crimea meeting between Leonid Brezhnev and Todor Zhivkov the opinion was expressed on 7 August 1981 that the creation of nuclear-free zones in some areas of Europe, for example, in the Balkans, could help a great deal to decrease tensions. Bulgaria proposed that a meeting of leading representatives of the Balkan states be held in Sofia in 1982 to discuss this problem. This idea has met a positive response in a number of Balkan countries -- in the SFRY and the Socialist Republic of Romania as well as in Greece.

The importance of creating a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans stems above all from their geographic position, the close proximity to the explosive Middle East, where there are clear signs that the U.S. ally Israel is becoming a nuclear power. In addition, the Mediterranean has become an area in which forward-based U.S. nuclear weapon systems directed at the socialist countries are deployed. In Italy, preparations are underway for the deployment of the newest U.S. medium-range missiles. Ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet equipped with nuclear arms are constantly cruising in Mediterranean waters. The United States is using its power to intimidate and blackmail several independent Mediterranean countries. Washington's adventurous course in this area contains the danger that the U.S. partners are involved in military conflicts of an unpredictable extent. Thus it is legitimate that many Mediterranean countries are showing interest in implementing ideas which would avert the nuclear threat from them.

Concerning the idea of a nuclear-free European Continent, the Soviet Union is ready to agree to the complete renunciation by both sides -- NATO and the USSR -- of all kinds of nuclear medium-range weapons directed against objects in Europe. Moreover, the USSR favors the idea that finally there will be no nuclear arms at all on our continent -- neither nuclear medium-range nor tactical. This would be a real zero option which would serve all European peoples. The most recent Soviet proposal to reduce the medium-range systems of both sides to 600 by 1985 and to 300 by 1990 illustrates which radical restrictions of the nuclear arms potential the USSR is ready for.

What Is the Acute Danger and Who Is To Blame For It

The European Continent would change from a potential "theater of war" as it is called in Pentagon and NATO staffs into a zone of permanent peace which is de facto free of nuclear arms. This requires an unrelenting struggle for all those to whom the future of Europe is dear, as well as NATO's strict observation of the principles of equality and equal security and the renunciation of deceitful hopes to gain unilateral military advantages which are still cherished in the Pentagon and in NATO headquarters.

At present 986 nuclear medium-range weapons systems are deployed in Europe on the NATO side; the USSR has 975 such systems. If the NATO missiles decision of December 1979 were implemented, nearly 600 new nuclear medium-range missile systems would be added on the NATO side. In this case the Soviet Union would also be forced to take countermeasures.

The arming of the U.S. Armed Forces in Europe includes about 7,000 nuclear arms units which are deployed on the territories of Great Britain, the FRG, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal, Greece and Turkey as well as in the sea and ocean areas around Europe. For every 50 of the about 350,000 U.S. soldiers in Europe, there is a nuclear arms charge equal to the explosive force of the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima which killed more than 200,000 people.

In addition to all this, the Reagan administration decided to produce over 1,000 neutron nuclear warhead units destined for the European Continent. The Pentagon is also working on deployment plans of new chemical weapons and lethal neurotoxins in Western Europe.

It is obvious: The historic responsibility for the nuclear confrontation in Europe rests with the United States. As early as 1948, when no European country had nuclear arms, Washington transferred two B-29 bomber squadrons to Great Britain and started to threaten the USSR with the "nuclear stick." Since the beginning of the 1950's a chain of air and navy bases has been laid around the socialist countries. The nuclear arms deployed there were slated for strikes against the vital centers of the USSR and its allies from the beginning.

In 1952 Great Britain became a nuclear power. Today its nuclear forces consist of 64 ballistic missiles and 55 bombers. In 1960 France tested a nuclear weapon and since then has developed its present nuclear potential of 98 missiles and 46 bombers.

In this situation the Soviet Union was forced to create a proper counterbalance to the overall potential of the NATO nuclear weapons systems and to strive for and to finally secure the now existing available balance of nuclear forces in Europe between the East and West.

But neither then nor today have the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries regarded, or are they regarding, the nuclear confrontation in Europe as a solution to the problem of the security of the European peoples. As early as the middle of the 1950's the socialist countries stepped forward with the initiative for creating a nuclear-free zone in central Europe.

It was to include the Polish People's Republic, the CSSR, the GDR and the FRG.

Above all, the socialist countries have worked out the main stipulations of the term nuclear-free zones which is now accepted in diplomatic practice -- that is, on the one hand, the obligation of the participating countries of the corresponding zone which have no nuclear arms not to produce, not to acquire nuclear arms and not to allow the presence of foreign nuclear arms on their territories; and on the other hand, the obligation of the nuclear arms states not to use any nuclear weapons against countries of the zone, and to respect and not to violate the nuclear-free status of these countries.

The USSR declared itself ready to give security guarantees to countries without nuclear arms which assume the obligations mentioned. But the United States and Great Britain refused to follow this example and started to equip the territories of their allies with nuclear arms. It is completely clear 25 years later: If central Europe had become nuclear-free, there would have been such complicated problems today in limiting and decreasing nuclear armaments.

When the American-Soviet SALT negotiations started, the Soviet Union repeatedly proposed to the United States that a ceiling be put on nuclear arming in Europe. But there were no negotiations, by fault of the United States. Neither in the 1960's nor in the 1970's did the various U.S. administrations want to make their forward-based nuclear arms system the object of negotiations and to have possible agreements extended to them, too. In 1976 the West also rejected the proposal of the socialist countries to conclude an agreement on the renunciation of the use of nuclear arms against each other in order to decrease the risk of a nuclear confrontation of both military groupings in Europe. The United States and its allies voted against the declaration on the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe. This declaration submitted by the Soviet Union and approved by the majority of the countries of the world at the 36th meeting of the UN General Assembly declares the first use of nuclear weapon to be the most severe crime against humanity.

Only the consistent position of the USSR and its fraternal socialist countries and a number of West European countries as well as the hitherto unknown upswing of the European peoples' movement against nuclear arms forced Washington to sit down at the table of the Soviet-American negotiations on nuclear arms in Europe which resumed in Geneva at the end of the past year. The United States, however, set an ultimatum declared as a "proposal" on the eve of the start of the negotiations. It demands that the USSR eliminate all its medium-range missiles, calling this the price for the United States to renounce the additional deployment of 572 new nuclear missile systems. This would result in the fact that NATO would reduce none of its present 986 medium-range systems, while the USSR would eliminate a great part of its 975 systems. That would be nothing but a destruction of the approximate military balance.

How U.S. Nuclear Weapons Are Suspended Over Western Europe Like the Sword of Damocles

To justify the presence of U.S. nuclear weapons in Europe, NATO ideologists maintain that these weapons should chiefly "restrain" the USSR from attacking the West European countries. This thesis is not only altogether false but intended to disguise the United States' real intentions.

There is abundant evidence that the main objective of the policy of the socialist states on the European Continent is to achieve peace, good neighborliness and mutually advantageous cooperation between East and West.

But who in Europe is interested in confrontation, including confrontation in the field of nuclear weapons?

The U.S. nuclear arms deployed on the European Continent have always been and still are regarded by U.S. military men and politicians as a most effective component of the American nuclear forces. It is precisely these forward-based systems that are to be employed first whenever an American-Soviet conflict develops in some part of the world which Washington wishes to solve by force of arms. This has been known in Western Europe for a long time.

There have been quite a few cases during the postwar period in which the United States had been ready to recklessly involve Europe in a nuclear war for the sake of aggressive actions by it in remote areas. It has been calculated that in the postwar period the United States has threatened to use nuclear weapons more than 20 times and that it thus has gambled with the vital interests of the West Europeans.

The dangers would be intensified if, as NATO has decided, Pershing-II missiles and land-based Tomahawk-type cruise missiles were deployed. With their performance thresholds -- little flying time to their targets, high target accuracy, reduced vulnerability and so forth -- they would rank among the most effective types of aggressive weapons in the whole U.S. arsenal. It is to be feared that in the event of a nuclear adventure by Washington they would first be put to use even in some other part of the world. It is not difficult to understand that in such a case the Soviet Union could not ignore these U.S. missiles and that hence they would attract a Soviet counterstrike. The Pentagon is openly foisting a suicidal thesis on the Europeans: to protect themselves they must be ready to destroy themselves together with the enemy. As is well known, the Reagan administration has underscored that it adheres to the "new nuclear arms strategy" defined in Presidential Directive 59 in the fall of 1980, which in substance adds up to the fact that a "limited" nuclear war is acceptable above all in the European "theater of war." On 19 October 1981 the U.S. President himself publicly admitted that this directive is still valid and on 4 November 1981 U.S. Secretary of State Haig pointed out that NATO has a plan for the possible "demonstrative" use of nuclear weapons. As far as U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger is concerned, he and his colleagues from the Pentagon are directly posing the question of a victorious nuclear war.

If such U.S. nuclear war plans were staged, this would be the beginning of the end for Europe and its civilization -- this is the joint conclusion of all prominent experts in both West and East. In principle, Washington is appealing to Western Europe to pay with suicide for the nuclear arms "guarantees" in periods in which the United States unleashed crises and conflicts.

But the United States is even trying in peace times to extract dividends from its nuclear arms and to exploit the U.S. contribution to Western Europe's "defense" as an instrument of political blackmail against its own partners. The logic behind Washington's conduct is cynical: "Support the U.S. global strategy, the U.S. confrontation course even if it disagrees with your interests." So it was during the U.S.-Iranian crisis when the Western European countries were forced by U.S. pressure to join the boycott measures against Iran, to the detriment of their own economic and political interests. So it was with the "sanctions" against the USSR under the pretext of the situation in Afghanistan. And now that Poland is being used as a pretext, the West Europeans are to be harnessed to the cart of U.S. confrontation policy.

The Mendacious U.S. Counterattacks and What Really Is at Stake

Increasingly less credence is being given in Western Europe to the U.S. thesis that the military guarantees would be all the more solid the more U.S. nuclear arms are stationed in Europe. People in Western Europe, however, now have a better understanding of the idea Winston Churchill expressed as early as in the fifties: "We have permitted U.S. nuclear arms to be stationed on our territory and now we are becoming the target of a return strike." Who can be surprised at the fact that the West Europeans do not want to accept the face of being "nuclear hostages" who would be the first to be sacrificed for the interests of their overseas ally.

When practical ways of implementing nuclear-free zones in northern Europe and the Balkans began to be thoroughly discussed, the Washington circles hostile to detente did more than express their negative position toward these ideas. They also began to put unprecedented pressure on their allies. Only recently U.S. Secretary of State Haig declared that there could be no doubt that the United States would reject such concepts, irrespective of which members of the alliance they affected. He claimed that the appearance of nuclear-free zones would intolerably harm the entire NATO defense strategy.

What is the real reason that the U.S. representatives reject such zones? Such zones would call in question the possibility of waging a "limited" nuclear war on, and from, the territory of their allies.

Washington wants constantly to scare its allies with the argument that the risk of military operations with conventional weapons would increase if nuclear-free zones were established. But in this argumentation it is deliberately "overlooked" that as early as in 1979 the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries officially proposed that the Helsinki Final Act signatories contractually commit themselves to renounce the use of not only nuclear weapons but conventional weapons against one another.

In the United States it is claimed that nuclear-free zones could give the USSR unilateral advantages, and that the establishment of nuclear-free zones in northern Europe would include the territory of several of the United States' NATO allies and would be likely to restrict the freedom of action of this bloc. But the nuclear-free zone in the Balkans would include the territory of several of the USSR's allies in the Warsaw Pact. Neither the Soviet Union nor its allies consider that a problem. At NATO headquarters, however, this factor is ignored.

The United States is also foisting on its European NATO partners the idea that they should not hurry with negotiations about the establishment of nuclear-free zones but wait for the results of the Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva. But the West Europeans have long since lost confidence in such arguments. It is well-known indeed that the United States promised its allies to ratify the SALT II treaty which was negotiated over a period of several years, but ultimately it refused to ratify it. For a long time the various negotiations on nuclear disarmament have been deadlocked or interrupted and this is the United States' fault. What confidence, then, should Western Europe have in the U.S. position at the Geneva negotiations?

In some West European countries a dangerous illusion is still being widely cherished: That, because there are no nuclear weapons actually deployed on their territory, there is no acute need for legally fixing this status. Historical experiences prove the contrary. The United States has rejected the USSR's proposals submitted in 1978 to renounce the deployment of nuclear weapons in countries where no such weapons are deployed at present. Its leading representatives declare that all U.S. partners must be ready to deploy nuclear weapons. The tentacles of the U.S. nuclear arms octopus overseas are reaching out farther and farther, to territories it could not reach before. One example of this is the island Diego Garcia. Basically, there are no guarantees that Washington will not some day deploy nuclear weapons in peacetime in Norway, Denmark and Iceland, where the United States has military installations. According to the logic of the U.S. nuclear weapons strategy it is regarded as expedient to launch nuclear strikes, from places where the opponent does not expect them to originate — namely, the territory of those states where formally no nuclear weapons existed.

In contrast to the United States, which to date has been preventing an agreement on the nondeployment of nuclear weapons in countries where no such weapons exist at present, the Soviet Union is ready even to discuss measures for those regions of its own territory which border on nuclear-free zones. From the viewpoint of every nuclear weapons state this readiness of the USSR is a hitherto unprecedented step dictated by sincere concern for the security interests of the European states.

On the eve of the Second UN Special Session on Disarmament, scheduled for June-July 1982, it should be remembered that in the concluding document of the First Special Session (1978) the conclusion of agreements and treaties on the establishment of nuclear-free zones between the states of the regions concerned is described as an important disarmament measure. The establishment of nuclear-free zones must be promoted, the document says, as a constituent part of endeavors that serve the ultimate aim of a completely nuclear-free world.

DMITRIYEV VIEWS U.S. STEALTH BOMBER DEVELOPMENT

LD222328 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] According to Western news agencies, the Pentagon is pushing ahead at full speed to develop Stealth, an advanced technology bomber that cannot be detected by enemy radar. Commentary is by our observer Igor Dmitriyev:

Despite maximum secrecy surrounding the Stealth project certain details have leaked into the press. According to them the strategic Stealth bomber owes its invisibility to a nonmetallic frame and a specially adapted profile. The role of the aircraft has been described by none other than the defense secretary, Caspar Weinberger, in the following words: We expect that the advanced technology bomber will be capable of penetrating all existing and projected Soviet air defenses until well past the turn of the century.

Why is it so necessary for the United States to develop new and costly bombers when the nation has enough intercontinental ballistic missiles that can reach target anywhere and destroy a potential enemy many times?

If you ask an American military expert this question, you are likely to get the following answer: Strategic bombers are an integral component of the so-called nuclear triad. The other two elements are land-based strategic missiles and missile-carrying nuclear submarines. According to some estimates only 25 percent of America's strategic arsenal is land-based ICBM's. This is partially explained by the fact that United States' territory is smaller than that of the Soviet Union, for instance. And secondly, by spreading their strategic forces in three spheres the Pentagon thinks they will be less vulnerable. In other words, the development of the stealth bomber is yet another step in the administration's policy of obtaining strategic superiority over the Soviet Union, even to the clear indication that the United States has no plans to hold meaningful arms control talks with this country.

However, the importance extended by the Pentagon to the air force doesn't apply solely to strategic aircraft. Take Europe, for example. By planning to deploy 572 land-based Pershing-II and cruise missiles there, the United States administration seeks to set up the same offensive triad, but only on a medium-range level of arms. At present, the United States has two of the triad's powerful components deployed there. They are sea- and air-launched nuclear arms. Thus some 720 intermediate aircraft such as the F-111, F-111B, F-4 and others, can deliver nuclear strikes against Leningrad, the whole of Belorussia, Moldavia and the Soviet Transcaucasian republics. And they don't want to count these nuclear delivery systems. All the American side wants is to exchange the existing Soviet land-based missiles, which constitute the backbone of Soviet defenses, for the would-be American component of the triad, that is 572 new American land-based missiles.

The connection between the development of a new strategic bomber in the United States and the situation in Europe only appears to be artificial. Back at home the United States Government officials and lawmakers will blow their heads [as heard] defending the Air Force as a vital component of waging a nuclear war. But as far as Europe goes, they will equally blow their heads trying to minimize their forward-based nuclear carrying bombers. Obviously, they have two logics in Washington. One is for domestic consumption while the second is for export.

COLUMBIA LAUNCHED, SERVES PENTAGON ROLE

LD222148 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1715 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] New York, 22 Mar (TASS) -- The third launch of the reusable spacecraft Columbia, part of the Shuttle program, took place from the space center at Cape Canaveral, Florida, today. The launch took place at 1900 Moscow time, after an hour's delay caused by a minor fault in the ground refuelling system. Astronauts Jack Lousma and Charles Fullerton are to make 116 orbits of the Earth and after spending 7 days in space will land at the White Sands landing ground in New Mexico.

As is known, the previous Columbia test flight last November lasted only 2 days instead of the planned 5, due to various malfunctions which occurred during the flight.

The Shuttle program, on which work began in the United States more than 10 years ago, as the American press admits, was from the very outset virtually entirely subordinated to the interests of the Pentagon. The spacecraft of this series are now allocated a central role by the Pentagon in the "military assimilation of space," the journal AVIATION WEEK & SPACE TECHNOLOGY notes.

This fall the Pentagon plans to use them to put into orbit a large number of experimental reconnaissance instruments and military equipment. Later, the shuttle spacecraft will operate continually by taking spy satellites and laser and other weapons into space. "Regular operations" of this sort, reports the New York TIMES, will be carried out by Columbia after its fourth test flight planned for the end of June. One of the main tasks of the present flight is to perfect a system for putting into orbit satellites and other "cargoes," and also for bringing them back to earth, AP says.

Because of the Pentagon's increased interest, funds for the Columbia and the rest of the Shuttle program have been considerably increased. In 10 years the total cost has doubled and now exceeds \$10 billion. According to the New York TIMES, there are at least three more Shuttle spacecraft currently under construction. The Pentagon's program envisages 113 flights up to 1992.

Apart from this, in the next 5 years the American military intends to launch a further 450 small military craft into space. The Pentagon also attaches great significance to the development and manufacture of orbital military stations, both automatic and piloted. In fiscal 1983 the funds for these purposes are to be increased by 30 and 12 percent respectively. Over \$500 million have already been allocated, in particular, to the creation of super-powerful military laser installations for fitting in these stations. Air Force Maj Gen J. Abrahamson told journalists that the U.S. Defense Department is now actively studying the possibility of military space stations to "safeguard the national security" of the United States.

RDF EXERCISES HELD IN CALIFORNIA DESERT

LD222110 Moscow TASS in English 2027 GMT 22 Mar 82

[By TASS news analyst Yuriy Trushin]

[Text] Moscow, 22 Mar (TASS) -- U.S. mass media reports indicate that the Reagan administration is steadily sharpening the international situation and fanning military psychosis in the United States itself.

Almost in the wake of the recent NATO naval exercises in the area of the Gulf of Mexico and western Atlantic, which were broadly reported in the American press, the Pentagon on March 15 began in U.S. territory large manoeuvres of the so-called Rapid Deployment Force under the code name of "Gallant Eagle-82". According to press reports, taking part in the exercises are about 25,000 Rapid Deployment Force troops, 200 aircraft, 450 helicopters, over 800 armed vehicles and other military gear.

Selected as the area for the exercises have been the desert areas of the state of California.

The aim of the "Gallant Eagle-82" exercises is, reportedly, to practice air-lifting to large distances Rapid Deployment troops and their fighting gear, and their training in conditions very close to those of a potential area of military operations.

Foreign watchers note that of late the war games of the American Rapid Deployment Force have with increasing frequency coincided with other NATO countries' manoeuvres. Thus, for instance, "the most active" phase of the "Gallant Eagle-82" exercises has been timed to the exercises in the Atlantic Ocean of the merchant fleets of the NATO countries to train in operations they are to perform should a real war situation develop.

Practically every day the Americans are exposed to an avalanche of information about "exercises of special troops," "large manoeuvres," "air-lifting" of U.S. troops to the Sinai, Western Europe and other parts of the world. The growing flood of reports about U.S. interference in the internal affairs of El Salvador and Nicaragua, about the Reagan administration fanning hysterical campaigns against Cuba, Afghanistan or Angola, is hardly conducive to a healthy sleep of millions of Americans.

REAGAN QUOTED ON FAILURE OF GRAIN EMBARGO

LD231148 Moscow TASS in English 1120 GMT 23 Mar 82

[By TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko]

[Text] Washington, 23 Mar, TASS -- The restrictions imposed by the Carter administration in 1980 on the sale of fodder grain to the Soviet Union had practically no effect on the Soviet Union and only plunged U.S. agriculture into a deep crisis which continues up to now. This has been admitted by U.S. President Reagan in a speech to the newspaper (?editors) of agricultural states. He said the imposition of the embargo dealt a "body blow" on U.S. agriculture. The consequences of that decision, which blocked contracts for the deliveries of farm products, were "immediate and severe," "farm prices declined and our entire agricultural marketing system -- elevators, barge [word indistinct] railways, (?millet) exporters -- was disrupted." "According to both private and government estimates, billions of dollars in output and services were lost," the President went on to say, "thousands of jobs were lost and tax-payers immediately had to shell out more than two billion dollars to help soften the blow."

The President admitted that the Washington-predicted "negative consequences" of the U.S. embargo against the Soviet Union "never materialised." "Other countries did not hesitate to increase their production and displace U.S. sales," he said. "The President said that by purchases from those countries as well as expanding the use of substitute feeds back at home, the Soviet Union has been able to maintain at the previous level the production of meat for the population. [quotation marks as received]

But the cowboy-style attacks on international trade and on normal economic contacts are known to have cost dearly to the United States itself. According to the estimates by the Washington economic consultants' firm Schnitker Associates, the embargo imposed by the Carter administration on the sale of grain to the Soviet Union cost the United States 22,000 million dollars in losses for agriculture and U.S. entrepreneurs as well as in additional government spending. That also resulted in the loss of 310,000 jobs by the U.S. working people.

The President admitted that it turned down [as received] USA has hurt itself with no harm done to those against whom the measure was directed.

Ronald Reagan stated that U.S. agriculture has not been able to recover from the blow up to now: "U.S. agriculture is in its third straight year of economic recession" and the farmers are living through "an extremely difficult period." The crisis phenomena in the U.S. economy and "uncertain markets" have combined to erode the farmers' confidence in tomorrow and hopes for prosperity. Ronald Reagan pointed out that since 1977 the farmers' outlay has grown at a pace four times as high as that of increment in their incomes. The situation is so serious that it threatens to strangle the vitality from American agriculture.

With a view to overcoming the present crisis in U.S. agriculture, the President publicly announced a "long-term policy" on farm exports. Like the other analogous measures of official Washington, it is of demagogical character and obviously inconsistent.

Really, on the one hand, the President has solemnly proclaimed that the administration will not use farm exports as an instrument of U.S. foreign policy.

It would seem that common sense has prevailed in official Washington and that the Reagan administration through its own bitter experience, so to say, has come to realise the inadmissibility and balefulness for the USA itself of the policy of trade "sanctions" and "embargoes" which the U.S. ruling circles have obviously become addicted to of late in their attempts to "punish" other countries and peoples whose policies do not suit U.S. imperialism. But it is not the case. The President, on the other hand, made reservations which show that the administration by no means abandoned plans to use trade as an instrument to put political pressure on other countries. Thus, he specially emphasised that bans on the export of farm products may be imposed in the future in an "extreme" situation. "Don't get me wrong," he pointed out, "there may come a day when our national security is threatened and the issue of an embargo is raised again. In that case, I would not hesitate to declare such an embargo." Such pronouncements will hardly promote the growth of confidence abroad in the USA as a reliable trade partner. Threats of new trade sanctions, as was recently emphasised at hearings in Congress by representatives of U.S. business circles, would alienate America's "potential trading partners" and would compel them to establish long-term business contacts with those who in practice proved their striving for solid and strong trade contacts free from the impact of situation-determined political considerations.

Reagan also pointed out that the administration within the framework of its programme will increase pressure on its partners, on West European countries and Japan, in particular, to make them fling the door more widely open to the U.S. products.

PRC ECONOMISTS VISIT MOSCOW RESEARCH CENTERS

LD221756 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1330 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] Chinese economists visiting the Soviet Union have been taken to a number of research centers in Moscow, including the Economic Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and the Institute of Labor Studies at the State Committee on Labor and Social Matters. The institute's officials gave all explanation to the visitors and asked them questions about economic problems in China. The Chinese delegation arrived in this country to learn about its planning system, economic management and related questions.

BEIJING PEACE POLICY TERMED 'POLITICAL STUNT'

OW211020 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1430 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Glebov commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: You know very well that the Chinese leaders today have repeatedly talked about the virtues of peace and said they are concerned with the danger of war that exists today. In his talks to foreign reporters in 1980 and 1981, Deng Xiaoping said that China and the Chinese people were very much in need of a peaceful environment, and that China was determined to make all the necessary efforts to safeguard peace. Similar claims have also been made by Zhao Ziyang on more than one occasion. But let me remind you that while making such claims, the Chinese leaders have also stated that their international policy is a continuation of Mao Zedong's foreign policy. The Sixth CCP Congress, for example, made this point very clear.

But how can the two viewpoints coexist? The whole world knows that Mao had openly propagated war and had even written poems to praise it. The great helmsman said that detente and struggle for peace and international security were dangerous illusions. Dear listeners, probably many of you can still remember that Mao Zedong and his confidants had said that world war was absolutely inevitable and that all efforts to defend peace were unnecessary and harmful. After the downfall of the Gang of Four several years ago, Beijing still peddled such fallacies of Mao's. Since then the Chinese leaders have become even craftier. They have described China's bright future as being illuminated by explosions of (?modern) and nuclear bombs. This is self-exposure on the international arena.

However, realizing that they had better stay away from the lunatics if they do not want to be regarded as madmen by international public opinion and the people of the world, the Chinese leaders have disguised themselves as supporters of peace in international politics and have said that they are highly concerned about the existence of the danger of war and are ready to make all efforts to remove such danger. But such a political stunt probably can only fool those who know nothing about politics because, in actuality, the Chinese leaders have done their utmost to aggravate international tension. For example, when Washington decided to produce the neutron bombs, the decision invoked worldwide protest. But the Chinese leaders supported such an adventure. They also expressed their understanding and supported all the decisions and acts of the militarist forces in the West to undermine detente and have repeatedly issued demagogic calls to instigate the arms race, which is dangerous to peace.

Dear listeners, it is very clear that today's Chinese leaders are truly Mao Zedong's successors. This means that they, like Mao and the Gang of Four, are in total disregard of the Chinese people's interests and aspirations for peace.

NO TERRITORIAL ISSUE EXISTS BETWEEN USSR, CHINA

OW191225 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0700 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Musin commentary: "The First Equal Treaty"; fifth in the series "Fragments in the History of Soviet-Chinese Relations"]

[Text] On 31 May 1924 the Soviet-Chinese agreement on outlines for the settlement of unresolved cases was signed in Beijing.

Several months later, on 20 September 1924, another agreement, which became part of the Beijing agreement, was signed in Shenyang between the USSR and the government in actual control of northeast China at the time. At the same time, diplomatic relations were established between the USSR and China.

Negotiations had been held in Beijing prior to the signing of the Beijing agreement. Due to pressure from the Chinese media, the Chinese Government had agreed to negotiate in March 1924. According to the Beijing agreement, the Soviet and Chinese Governments agreed to abrogate all unequal conventions, treaties, agreements, protocols and contracts concluded between the Chinese Government and czarist Russia -- that is, the treaty signed in 1896 and other treaties and agreements granting czarist Russia consular jurisdiction and extraterritorial rights. The Beijing agreement also stipulated that the USSR would relinquish all rights and privileges enjoyed by czarist Russia in all the concessions in various parts of China, and that the Soviet Government would declare null and void all treaties, agreements and resolutions concerning China's sovereignty and interests concluded between czarist Russia and third parties in China. A resolution on the Soviet-Chinese border issue was also included in both the Beijing and Shenyang agreements.

The border between the two countries had been shaped by history and determined by a series of treaties and other documents. The two aforementioned agreements reaffirmed that the two governments would meet to reexamine the border between the two countries and agreed that the status quo concerning the border would be maintained pending reexamination. In view of these terms, there is no reason whatsoever for the Chinese side to make any territorial claims.

The two agreements also stipulated that treaties were to be concluded, and, at the Soviet Government's proposal, that ambassadors were to be exchanged between the two countries. At that time, other countries only sent ministers to Beijing in order to emphasize that China was only a second-class country.

The Chinese people were overjoyed with the signing of the first Soviet-Chinese agreement. On 2 June 1924 newspapers and other publications in Beijing carried many commentary-type articles on the signing of this historic agreement. In an article entitled "A Happy Event," BEIJING RIBAO stressed that China had never signed a better agreement with any foreign power. On 6 June 1924 representatives of various circles in Beijing sent a message of greeting to the Soviet Government pointing out that Soviet-Chinese friendship would henceforth be more cordial and that the agreement would truly benefit China and the Chinese people in future.

Sun Yat-sen also warmly greeted the signing of the Soviet-Chinese agreement. He said in a letter that the Chinese people were thankful for the correctness and friendship shown by the Soviet Union, noting that for several decades China had been forced to sign treaties and agreements of national betrayal and humiliation with foreign powers. Sun Yat-sen also stressed that the Soviet-Chinese agreement was in full accord with the two countries' principles of equality and respect for each other's sovereignty.

The Soviet-Chinese agreement signed in 1924 laid down a principled [word indistinct] foundation. From the day it was signed, China's status on the world stage rose. Prospects emerged that China would be freed from the oppression of other treaties that were intended to plunder and enslave the Chinese people. The Soviet-Chinese agreement meant that the Chinese national revolutionary forces had support in their struggle against imperialist oppression.

The Chinese communists have repeatedly emphasized the significance of the abrogation of all the unequal relations between czarist Russia and China. At the Seventh CCP Congress in 1945, Mao Zedong pointed out that the Soviet Government was the first to abolish the unequal treaties and to conclude a new, equal treaty with China.

However, today Chinese leaders recall the first Soviet-Chinese treaty only when they want to slander the Soviet-Chinese agreements, to create doubts over the legitimacy of these agreements and to create a territorial issue. Obviously the Chinese leaders' claims are absolutely fictitious. There has never been any territorial issue between the USSR and China, now or in the past.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS SIHANOUK ARRIVAL IN PYONGYANG

PM230853 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report from V. Neznamov's "World Today" feature under the general heading: "In Brief"]

[Text] According to a DPRK press report, Sihanouk has arrived in Pyongyang. He is a leader of the Kampuchean counterrevolutionary emigres.

ANNIVERSARY OF USSR-DPRK ECONOMIC, CULTURAL TIES

Moscow Meeting

SK180546 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Today marks the 33d anniversary of signing of the agreement on Economic and Cultural Cooperation between the Soviet Union and the DPRK. Marking this significant day, a commemorative meeting was held at the Hall of Friendship With Foreign Countries in Moscow.

The meeting was attended by representatives of social circles in Moscow, activists of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society, officials of the DPRK Embassy in the Soviet Union, the Korea-Soviet Friendship Society delegation headed by Comrade (Ham Yong-ho), vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the society, and Korean students studying in universities in Moscow. (Sachuankov), deputy chairman of the Central Committee of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society, spoke at the meeting.

Comrade (Sachuankov) said: [recording in Russian fading into Korean translation] The Agreement on Economic and Cultural Cooperation between the two countries signed on 17 March 1949 became a firm foundation for further development of Soviet-Korean relations forged after the liberation of Korea by the Soviet Army from Japanese colonial rule.

This document was the first international agreement in the history of Korea concluded under the principles of Marxism-Leninism, proletarian internationalism, respect for sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs, mutual assistance and comradely support.

Comrade (Sachuankov) also referred to detailed contributions in the cooperation between the two countries in the political, economic and cultural fields in the interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Korea. He noted with satisfaction that this cooperation between the two countries is today contributing to effective fulfillment of the national economic tasks of the two countries.

Comrade Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the USSR, spoke next. He said: [begin recording] I express deep thanks to the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship With Foreign Countries, the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society and the comrades present at this meeting for arranging it to mark the 33d anniversary of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the DPRK and the USSR.

I also take this opportunity to convey the fraternal and friendly greetings of the Korean people to the fraternal Soviet people. Thirty-three years have passed since this agreement was signed. During this period the economic and cultural cooperation and the friendly and cooperative relations in other fields between the two people have been developed favorably.

The Korean people express deep thanks to the Soviet party, government and people for their active support and encouragement of the Korean people's struggle for national reunification. The Korean people treasure the traditional friendship and solidarity with the fraternal Soviet Communist Party and people. We will, in the future, too, make all possible efforts to continuously strengthen and develop the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation with the fraternal Soviet people on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

In conclusions, I sincerely wish the Soviet people greater success in their struggle to implement the decisions made at the 26th CPSU Congress. [end recording]

Radio Commentary

SK160558 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 15 Mar 82

[By station commentator Mikhaylov]

[Text] The USSR-DPRK protocol signed on 17 March 1949 is the first international document written on the basis of international socialism in People's Korea. The protocol includes questions on complete bilateral independence, mutual respect for sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs and reciprocity. Reviewing the significance of the protocol, Comrade Kim Il-sung has pointed out that it has contributed to adding a new page in the history of the Korean people by consolidating the republic's international and political prestige.

Past experiences show that friendship and cooperation with the USSR, as well as with other socialist countries, have helped DPRK workers overcome in a short period of time the aftermath of the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule and of the U.S. imperialists' aggressive war from 1950 to 1953, and have encouraged them to advance along the road of constructing a new society. As a result of this cooperation, the republic's economic structure has remarkably changed. The DPRK has successfully developed modern industries such as the metal industry, the machine-building industry and the equipment-building industry. The Soviet people rejoice over the successes the Korean friends have attained in the course of socialist construction.

The same number of industrial products produced over a year's time in 1944 can now be produced in a few days in the DPRK. Numerous competent cadres have been brought up in People's Korea. Various universities and schools have been erected, brilliant successes have been registered in the agricultural sector. DPRK workers have scored gains in science, culture, health and welfare. The Soviet people consider it their international duty to help the fraternal Koreans build a new society.

The Soviet-Korean Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Aid, which developed the 1949 protocol into a new level, is filled with the spirit of internationalism. Thousands of Soviet engineers have worked at construction sites in the republic. Thanks to their cooperation, some 64 major industrial and other establishments have been rehabilitated and constructed. The USSR is taking part in reconstructing and building a number of large plants, including the Kim Chaek iron mill, the Pukchang thermal power plant and a bearings plant.

The constant growth of trade becomes an important foundation to accelerate development of the Soviet-Korean economy. The Soviet Union is shipping to the DPRK oil, petroleum products, coal, alloys and machine and facilities of various kinds. The DPRK is shipping to the Soviet Union some types of metal cutters, rolled steel, precious metals and consumer goods. Trade volume between the Soviet Union and the DPRK will grow by 40 percent during the 1981-85 period.

The mutual visits by scholars and scientists are a good tradition in exchanging advanced experiences and updated scientific successes.

Cultural cooperation between the Soviet Union and the DPRK is increasing with each passing day and developing to a new level. Our two peoples will mutually exchange visits of artistic troupes, writers, composers and painters and their work. For example, the DPRK National Orchestra, the Pyongyang "Sea of Blood" Art Troupe and the Mansudae Ensemble have performed and been greatly welcomed in the Soviet Union. The Korean people warmly welcomed the Russian National Orchestra, the Kazakh Song and Dance Ensemble, the Russian Far Eastern People's Chorus and other Soviet art troupes.

Recent trade, economic, scientific, technological and cultural cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK has been characterized as long-term, programmatic cooperation. This cooperation, based on the Soviet-Korea protocol signed on 17 March 1949, completely meets the interests of the two peoples and the cause of consolidating world socialism.

Magazine Articles

SK121211 Moscow in Korean to Korea 0930 GMT 11 Mar 82

[Review of March edition of SOVIET UNION magazine]

[Excerpt] The SOVIET UNION magazine carries articles on Soviet-Korean cooperation in various sectors. One of them is about joint Soviet-Korean work in developing biological resources in the Pacific Ocean.

The amount of fish the two countries will catch in the Sea of Japan and the Sea of Okhotsk is allocated by the program for 1982. In consideration of the invariable friendly relations between the two countries and to meet Soviet aspirations, the Soviet Union has increased the quota of fish that the DPRK may catch in Soviet coastal areas.

The magazine runs an article on the Korean-language Moscow radio service under the title "Broadcasts of Friendship." The Moscow radio station first aired Korean-language programs in August 1945. At that time, Moscow radio started broadcasting about friendship for the Korean people liberated by the Soviet army from the slavery of the Japanese colonial rule. This broadcast was popular among the Korean listeners in the period following the liberation and even during the fatherland liberation war waged by the Korean people against the imperialist aggressors. It is clearly shown in the letters Moscow radio received from the Korean listeners, now stored at the station, that the broadcast was warmly welcomed by Korean listeners even in the period following the war.

Moscow radio constantly corresponds with Korean listeners. It pays attention to their opinions, desires and musical requests in the course of making up programs.

Cultural Exchange Plan

LD222332 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] A cultural exchange plan signed in Moscow today provides for further development of cooperation between the Soviet Union and the DPRK. It covers the next 2 years and its framework includes expanded links between the two countries in the area of culture, art, science, higher and secondary education and the press. Great attention is also given to the festivities devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR.

MILITARY LEADERS RECEIVE MONGLIAN MEDALS

PM121347 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Feb 82 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Presentation of Mongolian Medals"]

[Text] The presentation of the jubilee medal "60 Years of the Mongolian Armed Forces" to a group of prominent Soviet military leaders took place at the Mongolian Embassy in the Soviet Union on 9 February. The medals were awarded for great contributions to the cause of developing and strengthening the fraternal friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and the Mongolian Armed Forces.

The awards were presented by D. Gotob, Mongolian ambassador to the USSR.

Among the recipients were Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister; Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, Army General S.K. Kurbotkin and Army General A.T. Altunin, USSR deputy defense ministers; and also Marshal of the Soviet Union P.F. Batitskiy and other generals and admirals.

Maj Gen S. Gangaanyan, Mongolian military and air force attache to the Mongolian Embassy in the USSR, attended the award ceremony.

PRAVDA ON KARMAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE REMARKS

The item entitled "TASS Cites Karmal National Conference Remarks" published in the 19 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pp D3-4, has been compared to a TASS report published in Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 19 March, p 5, under the heading "Who Is Preventing a Political Settlement Around Afghanistan." The item, otherwise identical, renders the first sentence of the last paragraph as follows:

Facts show absolutely clearly who is it that hampers the settlement of the situation around Afghanistan.

DEMONSTRATION HELD AT U.S. EMBASSY IN KABUL

LD210730 Moscow TASS in English 0713 GMT 21 Mar 82

["Wrathful Condemnation" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Kabul, 21 Mar, TASS -- A mass manifestation was held here on Saturday in protest against the provocative decision of the United States and its allies to hold the so-called "day of Afghanistan." The manifestation was keynoted by the slogans "down with imperialism with the United States at the head," "Long live the April revolution," "We shall win," "down with mercenaries of imperialism, hegemonism and reaction." Taking part in the manifestation were more than 100,000 people who held a meeting of protest outside the Embassy of the United States.

The speakers at the meeting denounced the designs of imperialism and reaction against revolutionary Afghanistan. They emphasized that any conspiracies and designs of enemies of the April revolution are doomed to failure since it is impossible to break the will of the people who embarked upon the path of building a new life.

On behalf of the clergy the meeting was addressed by prominent religious leader, member of the Supreme Council of Ulemas and Clergy of Afghanistan Tana Maulawi Mohammad Salem Elmi. The whole world knows well about the U.S. criminal actions against such countries as Angola, Cuba, Nicaragua, El Salvador, he stressed. The whole world now knows that Washington is an enemy of progress, justice, democracy. The clergy and all the working people of our country demand that Washington and its flunkies should stop interfering into internal affairs of revolutionary Afghanistan.

The participants in the manifestation, which was arranged by the National Committee of the National Fatherland Front of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which affiliates all progressive and democratic forces of the country, unanimously passed a resolution which firmly denounces the criminal interference of the administration of the United States and its allies into Afghanistan's internal affairs. The resolution stresses that the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan regard the decision taken (?by Washington) and its accomplices to hold the so-called "day of solidarity with Afghanistan" as downright support of counter-revolution.

'SLANDEROUS' U.S. CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRA SCORED

LD211146 Moscow TASS in English 1136 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 21 Mar, TASS -- "'The Big Lie' operation to which they in Washington now resort shall not enable however the United States and also Beijing and other foes of the Afghan people to shirk responsibility for their crimes," writes the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. The newspaper points out the despite incessant designs of enemies, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan attained noticeable successes. 249 industrial projects put into operation since April 1978 in Afghanistan. 297,000 peasant families were provided with land free of charge. 7 mechanized agricultural centres were formed, with their car fleet being more than 400 units. Low-paid workers and employees had their wages and salaries increased (from 26 to 50 percent). 600 schools were built, 28,000 literacy courses are functioning.

The imperialist forces with the United States at the head, the Chinese hegemonists, Pakistan's military regime and other foes are seeking to destabilize the situation in the country, to restore the old order. The enemies of the April revolution are training bandits and send them to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to kill party activists, wreck schools, terrorize the population.

The slanderous campaign was now given a fresh impetus, the article runs. U.S. President Reagan announced March 21 "the day of Afghanistan." The organizers of another propaganda show seek to make it broad-scale. Representatives of gangs of bandits come to the United States to participate in the infamous spectacle. Provocative hearings in this connection were held at the U.S. Senate. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Walter Stoessel spoke at the hearings. Ignoring the obvious and generally known facts, the representative of the U.S. administration directed a stream of slander at the legitimate Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

"Afghanistan continues its difficult advance from medieval ages into contemporaneity, towards a new happy life. The process of revolutionary transformations in Afghanistan is irreversible, sooner or later this will be realized by those who are now creating tension around the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan," the newspaper stresses.

TASS ON FORMATION OF 'AFGHAN INSURGENT FRONT'

LD211914 Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 21 Mar 82

[By TASS observer Vladimir Matyash]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Mar, TASS -- FRANCE PRESSE AGENCY reported that a new counterrevolutionary grouping, the so-called "Afghan Insurgent Front" has been created in Pakistan. It united seven organizations of basmaks [budmash]. There is no doubt that the forming of the new grouping of bandits meant for sending into the Afghan territory of saboteurs, terrorists armed to the teeth and other hirelings of the forces of imperialism and reaction is a new link in secret subversive operations of the United States against Afghanistan. This fact shows again that official Washington, continuing the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, is using Pakistan as a bridgehead for aggressive sorties of counterrevolutionaries against the Democratic of Afghanistan, for heightening tension in the area.

It is well known who is behind the gangs of saboteurs who encourages the policy of international brigandage and hampers political settlement around Afghanistan above all, it is the Central Intelligence Agency of the USA and other U.S. special services, and the Pentagon that mastermind criminal actions staged by enemies of Democratic Afghanistan on the peaceful Afghan land.

It is well known that it is precisely the Central Intelligence Agency of the USA that coordinates the supply to bandit formations of anti-tank grenade launchers, automatic guns, machineguns other types of weapons and various munitions, thus exporting counter-revolution. The "NEW REPUBLIC" journal which appears in Washington pointed out in this connection, lifting the pall of secrecy from operations against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan that the CIA is coordinating the supply of weapons to Afghan basmaks with intelligence services of certain Islamic countries which are hostile to the April revolution in Afghanistan.

It is not accidental that Pakistan was chosen as a bridgehead for the large-scale undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Its border with Afghanistan stretches for 1,400 miles and it is not averse to performing the functions of a gendarme in the region, the way it was done by the shah's regime in Iran in the past. It is also no secret that Washington's promises to provide to Pakistan long-term credits to a sum of three billion dollars mainly for the purchases of up-to-date armaments mean encouragement by the Pakistani authorities in close interaction with the CIA for banditism and terrorism, for interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

But the ringleaders of the basmaks who resort to direct armed interference in the affairs of sovereign Afghanistan are doomed. They will be routed. They will have the same fate that befell the basmaks in Soviet central Asia who were relying on the backing of imperialist intelligence services.

Democratic Afghanistan is determined to rebuff the sinister forces of international imperialism headed by the United States, to uphold its revolutionary gains.

Fatherland Front Statement

LD211742 Moscow TASS in English 1720 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] Kabul, 21 Mar, TASS -- In the recent days the U.S. imperialist circles have again been heightening tension and escalating counterrevolution in Afghanistan and around it, which is seen from the anti-Afghan campaign unleashed in the West on the initiative of the Reagan administration of the USA which we assess as a new outright and unprecedented interference in the internal affairs of the revolutionary independent Afghanistan, says an address of the National Fatherland Front of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to the people of Afghanistan on the occasion of the new Afghan year that has been circulated by the BAKHTAR news agency. By propaganda hullabaloo, lies and misinformation international imperialism headed by the United States is trying, on the one hand, to cast a slur on the gains of the Afghan people and, on the other hand, to give the backing to the Afghan counter-revolutionary forces that are organized and armed by Western powers and China.

There are many examples of the United States interference in internal affairs of other states, says the National Fatherland Front. Using the dirtiest methods and pressure, the Reagan administration is trying to put obstacles to Libya's anti-imperialist policy and to impose on it a course suiting the United States. The policy of pressure and intimidation with regard to Angola, Cuba, Nicaragua, Salvador, is strongly condemned at all international forums.

U.S. imperialists and their Chinese flunkies have turned Pakistan's territory into a base of Afghan counterrevolution. Dozens of training camps, centres and points operate there. Gangs of murderers and robbers are trained there by U.S. and Chinese instructors and are sent later into Afghanistan. Imperialists and hegemonists supply these gangsters with most up-to-date weapons. CIA agents intensively operate from Pakistan's territory. They act as advisers in masterminding and staging acts of sabotage and propaganda subversion against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Bandit groups sent into the territory of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan use arms, sabotage and terror to prevent the Afghan people from becoming the master of its destiny, from building a new life and using freely the fruit of its work.

We have the proof that counterrevolutionaries operating on the territory of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan use for their criminal actions against the Afghan people chemical weapons of U.S. makes, the address says. Samples of these weapons, other material evidence and documented proof of the crimes and atrocities of the counterrevolutionary gangs, as well as facts of outside interference in internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have already been presented to the Afghan public.

It is not for the first time that our enemies are drawing the attention of the press, radio and television of Western countries to the so-called "Afghan question" they have created artificially, are putting it on the agenda of various international forums, the address says. Through lies and deception they created artificially the so-called problem of "Afghan refugees". The enemies of the April revolution are doing everything to oppose us to our brothers who for different reasons are outside their motherland and whom the forces of imperialism, hegemonism and reaction are trying by intimidation and threats to involve in the fratricidal war and to use in their own interests.

But neither plots, intrigues and lies of propaganda machines of U.S. imperialism, its Western allies and their flunkys -- the Beijing hegemonists, nor the creation of camps for training Afghan counterrevolutionary elements on the territory of Pakistan which has become the bulwark of aggression and military intervention of international imperialism against our country will push the people of independent Afghanistan conducting the policy of non-alignment off the chosen road, says the address of the National Fatherland Front. We remind again our neighbours, Pakistan and Iran, about the statement of the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan of August 24, 1981 which invites them to enter a dialogue with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to prepare the talks that would lead to the solution of existing problems, to political settlement, to the establishment of goodneighbourly relations and radical improvement of the situation in the region.

We hope that the Governments of Pakistan and Iran will answer our calls of goodwill, says the National Fatherland Front of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

COMMENT ON U.S. CHEMICAL WARFARE ALLEGATIONS

TASS Countercharge

LD091648 Moscow TASS in English 1624 GMT 9 Mar 82

["Provocation" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, 9 Mar, TASS -- Provocative hearings "on Afghanistan" were held in the Senate of the U.S. Congress. U.S. Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel spoke at the hearings. Ignoring obvious and generally-known facts, the representative of the U.S. administration slandered the lawful Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. Just as other U.S. propagandists of the cold war, Walter Stoessel made allegations about the use of "Soviet chemical weapons" in Afghanistan. Just as it should have been expected, he failed to cite if only one fact to confirm his words and only made unconvincing references to an "analysis of information" made by the U.S. administration. Washington resorts to these lies to cover up its large-scale preparations for chemical and biological warfare, its build-up of chemical weapons arsenals.

Huge amounts of chemical toxic agents have been stockpiled on the United States territory, about 150 thousand tons, according to the press. About three million artillery shells, bombs and mines are filled with toxic agents. But Washington which widely used chemical weapons during the aggression against the peoples of Indochina is not going to limit itself to this.

President Reagan recently approved a large-scale programme of the production of the principally new type of chemical weapons — bombs and artillery shells filled with the so-called binary nerve gas. The construction of a plant to produce these barbarous weapons designed mainly for the West European "theatre of operations" is being concluded by the Pentagon in the town of Pine Bluff, Arkansas. About six billion dollars will be allocated for this programme in five years ahead. So far, by press reports, the U.S. troops are being armed with various types of chemical weapons that are already kept in the Pentagon arsenals.

Such are facts which the U.S. under secretary of state preferred not to mention in his address to the senators. Grenades with chemical agents manufactured at plants in Pennsylvania were recently taken from thugs of counter-revolutionary gangs that are armed by the United States and China and sent into Afghanistan from Pakistan's territory. So the "accusations" which Stoessel and other representatives of the Washington administration make now are clearly placed at the wrong door.

BAKHTAR on U.S. 'Slander'

PM150813 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Mar 82 p 5

[TASS report: "Exposure of Lies"]

[Text] Kabul, 9 Mar — The BAKHTAR agency has sharply denounced the slander campaign unleashed by U.S. propaganda against the DRA people's armed forces. The aim of the false insinuations regarding the DRA Armed Forces' use of chemical weapons, BAKHTAR writes, is to mislead world public opinion and to conceal the dimensions of the buildup of chemical, bacteriological and other lethal types of weapons in the United States.

This propaganda campaign, BAKHTAR notes, cannot deceive public opinion. It is actually from the counterrevolutionaries dispatched to DRA territory that the people's armed forces have confiscated in Herat and Ghazni Provinces chemical grenades manufactured in the United States. The world knows how the United States used chemical weapons against the Vietnamese people.

Resolutely rejecting the U.S. administration's malicious and unfounded accusations against Afghanistan, BAKHTAR stresses that U.S. imperialism and its accomplices do not have a single reliable fact to corroborate the fabrications they are disseminating. The entire Afghan working people, the agency concludes, express their anger and indignation at the U.S. ruling circles' hostile fabrications.

DRA Interior Minister

PM041303 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Mar 82 p 4

[TASS report: "Lies Exposed"]

[Text] Kabul, 1 Mar — S.M. Golabzoy, DRA minister of the interior, has exposed the slander campaign unleashed by imperialist circles over the alleged "use" in Afghanistan of "Soviet-made" chemical weapons.

"On behalf of the DRA Government I categorically deny these absolutely unfounded and completely false accusations and regard them as an attempt by the American imperialists to camouflage their own criminal actions," he stated at a press conference held here.

Tashkent Charges U.S.

GF091029 [Editorial Report] Tashkent International Service in Uzbek at 1700 GMT on 6 March carries an unattributed commentary entitled "From Pennsylvania to the Bandits." The radio recalls an article in SOVYETSKAYA ROSSIYA accusing the United States of using chemical weapons against the people of the DRA and claims: "The United States has supplied Afghan counterrevolutionary bandits with chemical weapons. The officials of DRA security organizations in Kabul have captured chemical weapons produced in the United States. The following is written on them: Attention. Poisonous, do not touch. Poisonous gas."

"Meanwhile," the radio continues, "chemical handgrenades have been hurled against an administrative building in another town of the DRA, Ghazni, [words indistinct] the following on them: (?M-46)-M-36, (?N 60.2/709). It is common knowledge that such grenades are produced by [name indistinct] company in Pennsylvania. After the defeat of counterrevolutionary bandits, DRA troops captured a number of their chemical weapons. These weapons have also been manufactured in the United States. They were numbered M-12."

Stating that despite all the evidence against it, the United States is still claiming that chemical weapons have been used in the DRA not by the United States but by the Soviet Union, the radio adds: "This fabrication has been made by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. And, to (?substantiate) their fabrications they later sent U.S. experts to Western Europe."

Recalling press reports in the United States itself criticizing the U.S. policy regarding the manufacture of chemical weapons, the radio concludes: "The organizers of the campaign of chemical fabrications in the United States have again exposed themselves on a large scale."

Korolev Commentary

LD081808 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] More light has been shed on the activities of the so-called research center of the United States that was based until recently in Lahore, Pakistan. The center developed bacteriological weapons and according to the Pakistan press it was formed in 1962, allegedly to do research in malaria. But in reality it cultivated mosquitos that carry dangerous diseases and then studied their effects. The local people were used as guinea pigs. As a result, more than 300 Pakistanis suffered. Vladimir Korolev, our observer, elaborates.

This report has hit the world press and provided fresh evidence that the criminal scheming of ruling groups in the United States is directed against peace and humanity. As the armchair strategists in Washington plan a new war, they expect to use not only nuclear weapons but also chemical and bacteriological. These weapons of mass destruction are being frantically developed by the Pentagon.

Experiments with chemical and bacteriological weapons have been carried out not only in the United States itself. American chemical and bacteriological weapons have been spreading all over the world. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has time and again provided facts of bandits using American chemical weapons against the Afghan population, schoolchildren and cattle. The racists in South Africa are using American toxic agents against the people of Namibia. As a rule these countries are chosen as testing grounds for American chemical and bacteriological weapons, where the people are fighting for freedom and national independence.

And no wonder, ruling quarters in the United States are ready to do anything to prevent the people from winning victory and leading the life they want.

SHEVARDNADZE, DELEGATION DEPART FOR INDIA 20 MAR

LD201202 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1139 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 20 March (TASS) -- A CPSU delegation headed by Eduard Shevardnadze, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Georgian Communist Party, left Moscow today to participate in the work of the 12th Congress of the Communist Party of India [CPI] at the invitation of the National Council of the CPI.

The CPSU delegation was seen off at the airport by Petr Demichev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, and by other officials.

Stop in Tashkent

GF201415 Tashkent Domestic Service in Russian 1315 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] The CPSU delegation headed by Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, stopped over at Tashkent airport today en route to New Delhi to attend the [word indistinct] Congress of the Communist Party of India. At Tashkent airport Comrade Shevardnadze and the accompanying delegation were received by Comrade Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, and Comrades Aytmuratov, Anisimkin, Salimov, Khudayberdiyev, (Rakhimov) and Umarov, members and candidate members of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Bureau.

Arrival in India

LD211026 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0950 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] Delhi, 21 Mar (TASS) -- A CPSU delegation led by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, arrived here today at the invitation of the Communist Party of India [CPI] National Council in order to take part in the work of the 12th CPI Congress.

At Palam airport in Delhi, the CPSU delegation was met by representatives of the CPI leadership, members of parliament and eminent national public figures. Y.M. Vorontsov, USSR ambassador to India, was among those who met the delegation.

The 12th CPI Congress opens on 22 March in the town of Varanasi in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETES INDIAN CP

LD211528 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 21 Mar 82

["Message of Greetings of CPSU Central Committee" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Mar, TASS -- The CPSU Central Committee sent a congratulatory message to the 12th Congress of the Communist Party of India.

Noting that the congress is held in conditions when the international situation has aggravated sharply, the CPSU Central Committee points out: "The aggressive imperialist circles led by the United States are heightening international tension, launching fierce attacks on socialism, on the forces of peace, democracy and progress."

"They impose on the world the arms race unprecedented for its scope, are trying to achieve military supremacy, to implement vain plans of bringing the world back to the times of the undivided domination of imperialism, barring the road to the liberation movements and progressive transformations in the world. To achieve these aims they push the world to the brink of nuclear conflict fraught with the threat to entire humanity. Asia and the Indian Ocean area are among the targets of their designs."

Some states neighbouring on India "have been drawn in the dangerous policy of heightening international tension. They have been trying to interfere in internal affairs of your country. External forces hostile to the Indian people are trying to undermine India's lofty prestige on the world arena as a peaceful state, active participant in the Non-aligned Movement. The policy conducted by India earned it respect of many countries of the world."

The CPSU Central Committee points to the vigorous participation of the Communist Party of India in the struggle against the aggressive imperialist forces and world reaction, for peace and security of peoples.

"People in the Soviet Union are aware what complex problems India has to decide to overcome colonial heritage and build a new life," the message of greetings says. "These problems can be solved by the efforts of the entire people on the basis of unity of the left forces and all democratic forces of the country. The Communist Party of India makes a weighty contributions to these efforts."

The Soviet people highly value the active role which your party plays in the development and strengthening of Soviet-Indian friendship relying on a durable foundation of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and India. This friendship has become a tradition that struck deep root among the peoples of both countries and is an important factor of peace in Asia and the whole world."

GANDHI GREET'S SOVIET LEADERS FROM AIRCRAFT

LD211816 Moscow TASS in English 1804 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 21 Mar, TASS -- Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi sent from board the plane a message to general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev, to Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Tikhonov. The message says: Flying over your vast country, we are sending warm wishes to you and your friendly people. The talks held recently with First Vice-President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vasilii Kuznetsov and Marshal Dimriy Ustinov were successful and strengthened the ties between our two countries. We address the best wishes to you and wish successes to the Soviet people.

ECONOMICS OFFICIAL CONFERS WITH INDIAN PLANNER

PM221337 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Businesslike Meeting"]

[Text] On 11 March S.A. Skachkov, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, received Manmohan Singh, member of the Indian Planning Commission. During the meeting, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, they discussed questions concerning the development of Soviet-Indian economic and technical cooperation.

CIA'S INDIAN 'ETHNOGRAPHIC' STUDIES SURVEYED

PM221513 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "CIA's Ethnographic 'Investigations'"; from the "World Today" feature compiled by S. Agafonov and Yu. Gatselyuk]

[Text] The range of the American espionage department's "interests" is extensive.

A wide range of specialists "work" for the CIA, appearing in very different roles. Businessmen, journalists, actors, missionaries -- the people from Langley have appeared in just about every guise. Reports appeared recently that the American special services are continuing to master "allied trades." This time the CIA's attention has been drawn to ...ethnography.

According to the UPI news agency, an American "scientific expedition" is trying to blaze its way into the northeast Indian union territory of Arunachal Pradesh, to a region bordering on China and Bhutan. Its purpose is to "study a recently discovered, hitherto unknown tribe." The agency notes the unprecedented interest being shown in this measure by certain U.S. departments.

This "interest" of theirs is causing valid alarm among the Indian public, as the nature of the CIA's "scientific investigations" is well known: organizing the subversive activities of separatist antigovernment formations and gathering intelligence data on specious excuse.

It is interesting to note that no so long ago an entire collective of "geologists" from Washington, London, Beijing and Islamabad was working within the framework of the "Karakoram-80" expedition near where a "mysterious tribe" lives, on Indian territory illegally occupied by Pakistan. Their task included a quest for...sites to rig up stations for electronic surveillance of the territory of India, Afghanistan and the USSR.

As events show, the comprehensive "study" of "blank spaces" on the CIA map is continuing in full swing.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON INDIAN OCEAN TENSION

India's Rao, Press Cited

LD051216 Moscow TASS in English 1003 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] New Delhi, 5 Mar, TASS -- The Indian Government believes that the United States' militaristic preparations in the Indian Ocean lead to a heightening of international tension, create a threat to peace and stability in that part of the world. India constantly advocated demilitarization of the Indian Ocean and liquidation of all foreign military bases there. This viewpoint of the Indian Government was brought to the knowledge of the U.S. administration. Such a statement was made at the House of the People by India's Minister for External Affairs P.V. Narasimha Rao.

The Indian press links the stepped up military preparations of the United States in the Indian Ocean with Washington's decisions to start full-scale production of neutron weapons and launch the programme of chemical rearmament of the United States. According to the NATIONAL HERALD, the newspaper close to the government circles of India, depots for storing neutron weapons are being built on the Diego Garcia island which was turned by the United States into its stronghold.

The Pentagon also plans to stuff missiles, now being installed on the island, with the lethal nerve gas and then such missiles will appear at warships and strategic bombers based on Diego Garcia. The peoples of coastal states, writes the newspaper PATRIOT, cannot remain indifferent in the face of the United States' attempts to turn the Indian Ocean into a powder keg.

In this connection the Indian press points to the readiness of the Soviet Union to promote the relaxation of tension in the Indian Ocean which was expressed specifically in the reply of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev to a letter of the Australian organization which advocates international cooperation and disarmament, as different from the United States which is escalating the arms race, writes the newspaper HINDUSTAN TIMES. In the person of its leader the Soviet Union demonstrated once again its devotion to the cause of peace, proposing to continue at any time negotiations with the United States on limitation of military activity in the area of the Indian Ocean, which were interrupted by the American side.

TASS on UN Session

LD101112 Moscow TASS in English 1028 GMT 10 Mar 82

[Text] New York, 10 Mar, TASS -- The urgent necessity of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace is being consistently stressed by a majority of speakers at the first session of 1982 of the ad hoc committee on the Indian Ocean which continues at UN headquarters. In accordance with General Assembly resolution (9 December 1981), the committee should make every effort during this year to accomplish the necessary preparatory work for the conference on the Indian Ocean, including consideration of its convening not later than the first half of 1983 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The chairman, Ignatius B. Fonseka, Sri Lanka, recalled that the General Assembly decision to convene the conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo is a necessary step for the implementation of the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

Representatives of India, Madagascar, Ethiopia, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, GDR declared the focus of the committee's activities must be functional and preparatory work for the Colombo conference. They sharply criticized the American position aiming at devouring the committee into a procedural quagmire.

To say the General Assembly Resolution 2832 of 1971 is not a basis for the conference is an "unacceptable" position in the eyes of most countries. Those which hold such a position don't seem to want to participate in preparatory work for the conference, pointed out Henri Rasolondraibe (Madagascar).

Lev Mendelevich (Soviet Union) said the countries of the Indian Ocean region sought greater calmness and security; they wanted a smaller military presence on the part of states from outside the region. Other states had to respect and trust those perceived interests, he said.

The Soviet Union had interests in the Indian Ocean, and he hoped others would consider them legitimate ones, he said. These interests lay partially in that the Soviet Union wanted the Indian Ocean region not to become another source of threat to Soviet security. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has created a threatening system of "forward bases" elsewhere. But from the south there was previously no "forward basing," and the Soviet Union wished to keep the situation that way. Soviet interests also lay in maintaining the security of its friends in the Indian Ocean regions, as those nations themselves understood that security. Those several interests should be respected and trusted, he pointed out.

Bulantsev Analysis

LD101424 Moscow TASS in English 1418 GMT 10 Mar 82

[By the TASS news analyst Sergey Bulantsev]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Mar, TASS -- The expansion and modernisation of the United States outpost on Diego Garcia island and other U.S. military bases in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf increasingly jeopardise the independence and sovereignty of the countries of that region and heighten the risk of outbreak of a nuclear catastrophe. This is said in a statement of 134 deputies of the Indian parliament, representing different political parties.

The statement of the Indian parliamentarians reflects the profound concern mounting in the Indian Ocean coastal states about the extremely unhealthy military and political situation, that has taken shape in the region through the fault of U.S. imperialism. As far back as 11 years ago, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a declaration of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. Regrettably, efforts to realise the declaration met with opposition from Western powers, above all the United States which is actively hampering any practical steps towards this goal. Moreover, U.S. militarist circles are continuing their policy for turning the Indian Ocean zone into a bridgehead of war, a testing range of U.S. terrorism that has now assumed a global scope.

The Pentagon enmeshed the Indian Ocean with a cobweb of bases stretching from Oman to Australia and South Africa. It is planning to set up U.S. military bases in Pakistani territory. The base on Diego Garcia island, turned into the Pentagon's "unsinkable aircraft carrier" in the Indian Ocean, poses, of course, an especially grave threat to the coastal states. This threat will be more dangerous when the island is turned into the biggest U.S. arsenal of nuclear, neutron and chemical weapons in the Indian Ocean.

The basin of the Indian Ocean with its natural riches is a kind of a mirror epitomising Washington's policy with regard to developing countries. There is no mineral-rich region in the world where the United States is not striving to obtain military bases or putting together military blocs. This is the case in the Middle East and the south Atlantic, the Pacific and South-East Asia. These vast regions, where Washington would like to establish its control over manpower and natural resources, were proclaimed to be the zones of U.S. "special interests."

"In conditions when the industrialized West finds itself all the time in the grips of crises and recessions, the question of raw materials, first of all energy raw materials, has become a question of over-riding importance to the world of capitalism. But, instead of coming to terms with developing countries, exporters of raw materials, on a mutually acceptable basis, the United States and its allies prefer to engage in blackmail and sabrerattle. This is why the United States is torpedoing all peaceful initiatives concerning the Indian Ocean. This is why it unilaterally disrupted negotiations with the USSR on limiting military activity in that region.

As regards the Soviet Union, it has always supported the coastal states' striving to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. Renunciation of the use of force and renunciation of efforts to build up military psychosis form the cornerstone of Soviet proposals regarding the Indian Ocean. It is precisely on this path that the countries of the region could successfully solve the problems facing them.

IZVESTIYA HITS ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN IN PAKISTAN

PM091445 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 5

[Ye. Sergeyev "Rejoinder": Test Bed for Slander]

[Text] In Peshawar they have "uncovered a conspiracy" against President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan. It is maintained that the police discovered a bomb made, according to the police version, by "terrorists from Kabul" and hidden in a copy of the Koran. But a bomb is contrived to explode, even if it is a propaganda bomb. And such a one exploded in the form of a report about "Soviet genocide against Muslims in Afghanistan," the "settling of northern regions of the DRA by Soviet citizens" and so forth.

Following the hysteria in the press, services were held in all the country's mosques to condemn the "infidels" and call for "revenge." There was a wave of mass arrests of "subversive elements."

Anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan campaigns are not a rare phenomenon in Pakistan. The present ballyhoo was distinguished from earlier ones, above all, by the fact that the signal for it was given by...the United States, and in fact by Spiers, American ambassador in Islamabad. In an interview in the newspaper JANG he declared Pakistan a "frontline state" which is "directly threatened by the Soviet Union." It was then that the forgery with the bomb in the Koran and everything else was produced in line with the well run-in technology of the preparation of international provocations by Washington's special services.

One wonders why precisely this moment has been chosen to stoke passions and fuel tension. There are many reasons, and one of them is the U.S. administration's intention to organize on 21 March another political show entitled "Afghanistan day." A rehearsal was now necessary. And where was the best and simplest place to hold it, if not in the country from whose territory the undeclared war is being waged against the DRA?

Following in the wake of U.S. foreign policy, so certain Pakistani figures evidently believe, helps to realize Islamabad's ambitious plans and places the desired weapons in its hands. More and more weapons really are being stockpiled in Pakistan -- weapons which, according to the cynical statement of U.S. leaders, are to make "the international structure more favorable to American values and ideals." To this end Washington is trying to destabilize the situation in South Asia and other parts of the world, and to this end it clutches at the most unsightly means.

PRC DELEGATION'S VISIT TO PAKISTAN VIEWED

LD221834 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1330 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] A high-ranking Chinese delegation led by Vice Premier Ji Pengfei has arrived in Pakistan. The official purpose of the visit is the celebration of Pakistan day set for tomorrow, but our commentator Vasilii Fedorov says that the makeup of the Chinese delegation gives cause for speculation that Beijing is taking advantage of the occasion to solve a few other problems of special interest to the Chinese side. This what he writes:

The announcement of the visit says that besides Ji Pengfei, the delegation to Pakistan includes Vice Foreign Minister Han Nianlong, who coordinates China's policy for Asia, and General Staff Deputy Chief Zhang Zhen, in charge of foreign relations in the Chinese Armed Forces. The delegation's itinerary, which includes Peshawar and Karachi on top of Islamabad and Lahore, is also an indication this is more than a mere courtesy visit.

In my opinion, Vasilii Fedorov says, the delegation led by Ji Pengfei pursues three main objectives. The principal one no doubt is to extend political and moral support to the martial law administration headed by General Ziaul Haq which could do well with an improvement of its current fortunes. You have probably heard that Pakistan has been in political ferment for quite a few months. The growing opposition is becoming increasingly articulate in protesting against the undemocratic domestic line pursued by Islamabad. Reports say that some 10,000 people have been put behind bars over just the past several weeks. Political parties, meetings and demonstrations are banned. The martial law administration does not even mention its early pledges to return the country to democratic civilian rule. All that has considerably eroded the prestige of the Ziaul Haq regime on the international scene and prompted the leaders of China to give more political support to their client.

The other task before the Ji Pengfei-headed delegation is to accelerate interference in the affairs of democratic Afghanistan. The Chinese are expected to go to Peshawar and surrounding areas, to the camps of the so-called Afghan refugees, actually counter-revolutionary bands being used by Beijing and Washington for waging an undeclared war on the popular Government of Afghanistan. No doubt the Beijing emissaries will again address the mercenaries with inflammatory harangues and promise them more Chinese assistance and support. To give their meddling some semblance of legality the Beijing leaders have of late revived their slander campaign against the Soviet Union which they [words indistinct] in Afghanistan repulse the hostile attacks.

Finally, the third task before the Ji Pengfei mission is to build up China's positions in Pakistan in the military area.

Observers believe Deputy Chief of Staff Zhang Zhen will hold talks with his Pakistani opposite number on increasing Chinese military aid to Pakistan. The value of such aid has topped \$2 billion over the past few years, a sum that you understand goes far beyond the needs of ensuring Pakistan's national defence. It is expected, moreover, that Zhang Zhen will inspect the coastline of the Arabian Sea outside Karachi where a Chinese naval base is now under construction. That base, reports in the Indian press say, is to serve as the main stronghold and springboard for Chinese expansion on the coast of the Indian Ocean.

BULGARIAN DAILY ON NEW VOA STATION IN SRI LANKA

AU091523 Sofia OTECHSTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 8 Mar 82 p 6

[Article for OTECHSTVEN FRONT by Evgeniy Mova, APN correspondent in Colombo, Sri Lanka: "Poison in the Air. A New 'Universal' Center for Spying and Subversive Propaganda"]

[Text] The Washington administration has recently approved a plan on setting up a branch of the Voice of America broadcasting station in Sri Lanka.

The radio station will broadcast programs aimed at India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Indonesia, the Philippines, the countries of Indochina and to a number of the other countries along the coast. At the same time, this station, assisted by powerful electronic systems, will jam the broadcasts of the Asian countries that are so "undesirable" for the United States, actively tap the transmission lines of the countries in this area, serve the units of the U.S. Navy in the Indian Ocean and receive and transmit data from spying activities conducted in outer space.

This is a case of unconcealed expansion against the developing countries in the region of the Indian Ocean. The Voice of America has recently devoted special attention to these countries. The duration of broadcasts in the languages of the peoples of Afghanistan and Iran was substantially increased. For example, while broadcasts in the Farsi language ran only half an hour a year and a half ago, they now run 3 hours.

The Voice of America network, in its 24-hour broadcasts to the listeners of the Arab world, is aimed at the public forces in the countries of the Middle East that are opposing the imperialistic policy of Washington. The "voice" is not averse to undermining the unity of the Arab people, sowing the seeds of mistrust regarding the legitimate demands of the Palestinian Arab people and their vanguard, the PLO, and justifying the aggressive Israeli policy.

The main idea behind the Voice of America's malicious propaganda became the developments around Afghanistan. The radio station is very strongly fanning the myth of a certain "Soviet threat" to the peoples of the Islamic countries. This is actually the myth under whose cover Washington is planning a blockade of Iran and the establishment of military bases in the Indian Ocean and in the area of the Persian Gulf. The authors of these broadcasts are trying to provoke a confrontation between the Iranians and the Afghans so they can contribute to the Iranian-Iraqi conflict by using certain religious and territorial contradictions and ascribing to them hostile intentions toward each other.

The Asian public was particularly alarmed by the New Delhi daily JANYUG's assertion that the Voice of America in Sri Lanka will be under the auspices of the CIA. The ties between this U.S. spying department and many U.S. information organizations openly carrying out ideological diversion against the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America are well-known.

CIA AGENTS STEPPING UP ACTIVITIES IN INDOCHINA

LD051830 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1300 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] The branch of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency in Bangkok is stepping up its subversive activities against Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea. According to the U.S. assistant secretary of state for east Asia and the Pacific, Holdridge, the American administration intends to use not only economic and political pressure but military pressure as well against the states of Indochina.

For this purpose the CIA is resorting to the services of the leaders of the Pol Pot gang, as well as the so-called resistance movement headed by Son Sann, who are a gang of smugglers and narcotics pushers. They are committing regular armed raids on Kampuchea. Also in the service of the CIA are members of Prince Sihanouk's group, who has long been collaborating also with the special services of Beijing.

All this motley anti-Kampuchean company is generously financed by Washington, according to the magazine AFRIQUE-ASIA, which is published in Paris. In the hands of the CIA residents, the Kampuchea reactionaries represent only an exchange piece with the help of which the American imperialists are trying to influence the socialist countries of Indochina. Washington is striving to precipitate a clash between them and other states of ASEAN. The Reagan administration, notes the Indian newspaper NATIONAL HERALD, has adopted a decision to turn Thailand into a forepost of anticommunism in Southeast Asia, into its main armed force directed against Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea.

For a long time the warriors of General Vangpao were based on the territory of Thailand, this very same general who headed, during the time of the American aggression in Indochina, the Laotian reactionaries, and he is now living in the United States. He has long been the paid agent of the CIA and he continues to keep up the Laotian hirelings in Thailand. With this help, notes the American newspaper Boston GLOBE, in January this year they dispatched a detachment of commandos from among the Laotian hirelings into Laos for the purpose of collecting intelligence. The operation was worked out by a former lieutenant colonel of the Green Berets (James Gritt). After a secret conference with the participation of two officers of the CIA, Vangpao gave (Gritt) a letter of recommendation to his supporters in Thailand.

(James Gritt) admitted after the failure of a number of operations in Indochina that the military intelligence of the United States had set up a special secret service which was to supervise Laotian operations. (Gritt), as a leader of the raid on the territory of Laos, received \$40,000. This money was used for equipping two saboteur groups headed by three employees of the American intelligence responsible for training Laotian hirelings in Thailand. These facts were not denied by the deputy director of the CIA, Admiral Inman. From government sources, notes the Boston GLOBE, it became known that with the help of the Americans the hirelings carried out two similar raids on the territory of Vietnam and Kampuchea.

The special services of the United States and China have turned Thailand's border with Laos and Kampuchea into a frontline of an undeclared war against those countries. With the acknowledgement of Bangkok, notes the Delhi newspaper NATIONAL HERALD, they have set up secret bases there where they are training and arming Laotian and Khmer reactionaries. Such a role of minigendarme in Asia, notes the newspaper, runs counter to the national interests of Thailand, which in the course of several centuries already has not been waging a direct war against her neighboring states.

U.S. TURNING PACIFIC INTO 'MILITARY LAKE'

LD210032 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1601 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] Washington, 20 Mar (TASS) -- A Pentagon representative has announced that on 22 March maneuvers under the codename "Rimpac-82" are to begin in the area of the Hawaiian Islands.

Taking part will be the naval forces of the United States, Canada, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, which will put a total of 58 warships, more than 120 military aircraft and more than 29,000 soldiers and officers of the army and marines on parade.

These provocative "games" are new evidence of the intention of the Pentagon military to turn the world's largest ocean into the United States' "military lake." It is with this aim that the Pacific Ocean has been declared a region of "vital interests" of Washington where, as Naval Secretary J. Lehman recently stated in Congress, "clear" naval superiority will be achieved.

As is pointed out in the weekly report of the Committee of U.S. Chiefs of Staff, an important position in these plans is accorded to a triangle of American naval bases: Honolulu (Hawaiian Islands) - Yokosuka (Japan) - Subic Bay (Philippines).

The U.S. naval chief of staff, Admiral T. Hayward, speaking recently in the Senate Armed Services Committee, stated that the main role in securing naval operations in the Pacific Ocean is given to operational groups headed by aircraft carriers.

"We are absolutely determined," Hayward boasted, "to achieve naval superiority by means of creating a fleet of 600 naval vessels. There are now, in his words, 490 warships in the American Navy."

In his turn, the commander in chief of the U.S. naval fleet in the Pacific Ocean region, Admiral J. Watkins, reported to Congress that under his command there are already 246 ships and more than 2,000 military aircraft. The total number of personnel in the U.S. Pacific Ocean fleet is now in excess of 300,000 people.

The funds allocated in the budgets for the 1981-1983 financial years, he asserted, will enable the United States to achieve naval superiority in this region.

J. Watkins said that in October this year the first submarine atomic missile carrier of the "Trident" class will be transferred to the Pacific Ocean, and will be stationed there permanently.

At the same time the nuclear cruise missiles "Tomahawk" will enter the fleet's armament. In the words of the American admiral, plans have been elaborated for staging a "limited" nuclear war by the Pacific Ocean fleet.

IZVESTIYA REVIEWS ANTHOLOGY OF LE DUAN WRITINGS

PM181137 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 5

[B. Vasilyev book review: "Following the Course of Creation"]

[Text] A new anthology of selected articles and speeches by Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Communist Party [VCP], has been published by the Political Literature Publishing House. [footnote: Le Duan, Selected Articles and Speeches. 1975-1981. General edition of the translation by Ye.P. Glazunov, Political Literature Publishing House, Moscow]. Soviet readers are already familiar with the two previously published anthologies of Comrade Le Duan's articles and speeches dating from 1960 to 1975. The materials of the new anthology, most of which are published in Russian for the first time, cover the period from 1975 through 1981.

It is well known that in the life of Vietnam's heroic people, this period was marked by a whole series of major events which followed the decisive victory gained by the Vietnamese patriots in the spring of 1975 in the difficult, long and bloody war against the American aggressors and their minions. This victory enabled the Vietnamese to reunite their liberated country on the state plan and to proclaim the unified Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The Vietnamese people entered a new stage in their historic development -- a stage of socialist building on a countrywide scale.

The value of the present anthology lies in its detailed illumination, based on real facts, of the major features of the VCP's domestic and foreign policy from precisely that portentous period in the country's history.

The anthology includes materials which, from a Marxist-Leninist stance, give a scientifically validated analysis of the Vietnamese people's tremendous achievements since their motherland's liberation, and clearly defines the major tasks now facing them in building a socialist society. In his work, Comrade Le Duan draws particularly great attention to the activity of the Communist Party, the combat vanguard of the working class and people of Vietnam, and this is quite legitimate since the new stage of the Vietnamese revolution has demanded that all Vietnamese communists should master Marxism-Leninism's revolutionary and scientific essence in greater depth, should make active and creative use of the rich and multifaceted experience of the CPSU and other fraternal parties, should hold aloft the banner of national independence and socialism, and should struggle for the full implementation of Ho Chi Minh's behests and the fourth party congress' historic decisions.

Comrade Le Duan made a large and weighty contribution to formulating the majestic program of socialist building in Vietnam as outlined by that congress, which was held at the end of 1976. The need to firmly implement the dictatorship of the proletariat while simultaneously carrying out three revolutions (in the sphere of production relations, science and technology, and in the sphere of ideology and culture) -- such was the task set before the country. In the articles and speeches published in the anthology, Comrade Le Duan explains in detail the course put forward by the congress toward creating the material and technical base of socialism, invariably stressing that the creation and development of the system of collective management, the acceleration of socialist industrialization and the implementation of the profound renewal of the social system, the social economy and the comprehensive development of the individual are the most important provision of party policy and a recurring theme throughout the process of the socialist revolution. "The successful building of socialism," Comrade Le Duan notes, "is the profound hope of the nation, a source of national happiness and of strength for the motherland's defense and our country's worthy contribution to the world revolutionary movement."

The course of the Vietnamese revolution in the new stage outlined by the fourth party congress was enshrined in the new SRV Constitution which came into effect in December 1980. In his articles and speeches devoted to the republic's new basic law, Comrade Le Duan substantiates in a detailed and convincing way the new SRV Constitution's most important provisions, defining it as the Constitution of the period of transition to socialism and the Constitution of the system of the working people's collective management. "The state's durability," he stresses, "is evidence of the efficiency of the ruling party's leadership and a guarantee of the working people's implementation of their right to be the collective master."

A considerable part of the anthology is allocated to the general secretary's comments on the subversive activity directed against Socialist Vietnam by China's ruling circles, who have entered into criminal collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces. "Being on the frontline of the struggle against the imperialists and international reaction," Comrade Le Duan remarked, "the Vietnamese people must withstand a very insidious enemy and overcome many difficulties." Having decisively repulsed the Chinese expansionists' aggressive intrigues, the Vietnamese people stand confidently in defense of their revolutionary gains. The close solidarity of the fraternal peoples of Laos and Kampuchea, the Soviet Union, the other socialist community countries and all the forces of national independence, democracy and peace are on their side.

Comrade Le Duan terms the constantly strengthening friendship between the Vietnamese and Soviet peoples to be a powerful creative factor for all Vietnam's victories in the cause of building socialism and defending national sovereignty. In his speeches and articles, he invariably stresses that the fraternal relations between our parties and peoples are based on a firm foundation of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. "The combat solidarity and comprehensive cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam," Comrade Le Duan said, "have given our people tremendous new strength to restore the country and defend their motherland reliably."

The new anthology of Comrade Le Duan's selected articles and speeches will undoubtedly cause great interest among all Soviet readers who know him well as a courageous internationalist revolutionary, a prominent figure of the international communist, worker's and national liberation movement and a true friend of the Soviet Union. This book's pages will be a vivid new chapter in the glorious chronicle of the heroic struggle of a people who are fraternal to us and whose further development will be outlined by the fifth VCP congress at the end of March.

PRAVDA PUBLISHES TRUONG CHINH CABLE TO BREZHNEV

PM170911 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] To Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

Esteemed Comrade L.I. Brezhnev!

Allow me to express to you and, through you, to the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium heartfelt thanks for the warm congratulations on my 75th birthday.

I am very moved by the sincere feelings expressed to me by the CPSU, the Soviet state and the USSR people. These feelings serve to further consolidate the relations of militant solidarity, friendship and all-round cooperation between our parties and states and between the Vietnamese and Soviet peoples.

I take this opportunity to wish you good health so that together with the CPSU Central Committee, you may continue to lead the Soviet people toward new, even greater victories in the implementation of the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress aimed at strengthening the might of the USSR -- the reliable bulwark of peace and the hope of all forces struggling for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism on our planet.

With communist greetings

[Signed] Truong Chinh, chairman of the SRV State Council

VIETNAM PROTESTS 'INVASION' BY PRC SHIPS

LD051830 Moscow TASS in English 1711 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Hanoi, 3 Mar, TASS -- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam today sent a note to the Chinese Embassy in Hanoi, voicing a strong protest over the invasion of a large group of Chinese ships into the territorial waters of the republic off the coast of the Binh Tri Thien Province, which took place on March 3. This invasion is viewed in the document as a gross violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam, one which poses a grave threat to the security of the republic and to the peaceful work of the Vietnamese fishermen.

The Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs demanded that the Chinese side immediately cease its acts of provocation directed against Vietnam.

VNA STATEMENT REFUTES XINHUA 'FABRICATIONS'

LD071516 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Hanoi 7 Mar, TASS -- The Vietnam news agency VNA has issued a statement firmly refuting the fabrications by the XINHUA agency that Vietnamese artillery on March 2 allegedly shelled a number of Thai border villages. It is perfectly clear, the VNA statement stresses, that the unfounded conjectures are aimed at creating tension in relations between Vietnam and Thailand and at diverting the world public opinion from the Chinese hegemonists' provocations.

AIMS OF WESTERN INTERFERENCE IN POLAND EXAMINED

LD222244 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1700 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Unattributed commentary from the "At a Sharp Angle" feature: "Instigators"]

[Text] As we have already reported, 10,000 balloons carrying containers with anti-Polish materials were released from the Baltic island of Bornholm. Since that time various media have reported important new information. For instance, the paper BORNHOLMS TIDENDE, published on the island of Bornholm, wrote that it was in possession of data showing that every 10th balloon sent to Poland had been infected with a virus dangerous to man, a fact which the paper passed on to the local police. It was revealed that a group of Frenchmen handling this provocation had been under the protection of Danish police. Moreover, police magistrate (Brand) was photographed with one of the balloons in his hand, which he then released into the air.

The press reported that the initiators of that provocation had been entertained in mid-February by the French foreign ministry.

Recently Polish television showed the balloons and the contents of their containers. The containers were full of antisocialist leaflets and instructions on how to thwart the process of stabilization in Poland. The provocateurs added to this quotations from the Pope on the subject of Solidarity.

It is now known for certain that the operation named "Balloons Over Poland" was organized by the so-called Solidarity Organizing Committee in France, which was established after 13 December. It is also well known that it had support from certain nongovernmental organizations, among them the French Democratic Confederation of Labor. There are thus grounds to suppose that it had the support of French and Danish authorities, with whose tacit approval this hostile action was carried out, despite the official declarations by the Polish Government. This act undermines not only the international convention of civil aviation signed in Chicago but the foundations of the Helsinki Final Act.

Thus one may draw the conclusion that a considerable number of functionaries of Solidarity, KSS/KOR [Social Self-Defense Committee] and other counterrevolutionary organizations in Poland who has been abroad on 13 December found protection in the subversive circles of imperialism and are actively used by them. According to Western press reports, foreign Solidarity centers have now been, or are being established in France, Sweden, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland and Greece, as well as in Canada, and the United States and Australia, and they are even competing among themselves for the role of the chief coordinator of anti-Polish actions. It is evidently with this aim in view that the anti-Polish circles in the West supporting them intend to gather together soon representatives of Polish antisocialist emigration in Malta to assign them their roles and duties.

History does repeat itself. Just as in its time the Confederation of Independent Poland enjoyed assistance from anti-Polish groupings in the United States, Canada, Sweden, Spain, France and Austria, so now all sorts of counterrevolutionary trash who fled Poland are beginning to serve the same masters. Imperialist circles are loathe to give up the hope that with provocations and subversion they will again be able to change the course of events in Poland toward disorganization, chaos and political confrontation. Particular zeal in this respect is being shown by Provocateur No 1 -- Radio Free Europe [RFE] -- a branch of the CIA in Munich.

What is this voice whispering unceasingly into Polish ears for 19 hours a day? As TRYBUNA LUDU writes, the main aim of that radio station of late has been to divide the PZPR.

From the CIA guidelines for the RFE leadership one learns that commentators should speak extensively on the seventh PZPR Central Committee plenum decisions and the party's draft ideological declaration in order to persuade the listeners that the PZPR has allegedly lost its Marxist-Leninist character and that they should call for its transformation into a liberal party of a social-democratic nature.

The CIA does not gloss over the Catholic Church in Poland either, recommending that RFE instill the thesis of making use of the political skills of the Episcopate in the political struggle in Poland.

At the prompting of the CIA and with U.S. funds, RFE has installed special technical equipment to intercept Polish telecasts. Of course, this is not caused by disinterested curiosity; it aims at making RFE commentaries appear factual: "Well, dear listeners, here we are, in Munich, yet we know very well what is happening in Poland. Therefore you can trust us." However, this sympathy is a pretense; in RFE programs this month there is much more angry gritting of teeth than in even in the most critical months of last year. The airwaves are now filled with instructions on how to organize the anti-communist underground. Economic sabotage, political suppressions, physical and moral terror right up to armed uprising are recommended.

This is not just propaganda interference in Poland's internal affairs; this is direct incitement to antistate and anticonstitutional actions. Western subversive circles also strive to implement the anticommunist influence of RFE through other channels. In parcels being sent by Western charities, Polish customs officers still find publications, matrices and printing blocks for leaflets, paper, printing ink and other supplies.

Forces remain in Poland that count on that Western influence and together with counter-revolution harbor thoughts of revenge. Professional counterrevolutionaries goad young people into attacking authorities and thus make them victims of their political immaturity. Releasing thousands of balloons into the Polish air, of which every 10th is infected with a virus dangerous to human life, is a lawless and deeply immoral matter; but how can one describe the fact that the victims of internal and external counterrevolution are Polish youth?

POLAND TURNS TO BLOC IN EFFORTS TO RESTORE ECONOMY

Measures at Enterprises

LD221435 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent A. Druzenko "Letter From Warsaw": "Quest for Reserves"]

[Text] The trademark of Warsaw's Polfa enterprise (medicines, vitamins) is well known inside and outside Poland. The collective fulfilled this year's January plan by 104 percent: discipline in the shops improved, labor productivity rose and, most importantly, there were sufficient raw materials and supplies (still from old stocks). Then, things got worse. The shortage of raw materials -- the ones which used to come from the West -- is becoming increasingly acute. These deliveries have now virtually ceased.

So what is to be done? The best specialists from the plant headed by engineer Zdzislaw Mroczek are pondering. And the program they are elaborating within the framework of the introduction of the economic reform is designed to ensure that the shortage of imported raw materials, or more precisely, of raw materials imported from capitalist countries, does not call into question the work of the enterprise. In their opinion, it is possible to produce some of the essential inputs at plants in Poland. Polfa also attaches a great deal of importance to extending -- on the principles of cooperation and exchanges of materials -- ties with related enterprises in socialist countries.

Everyone realizes that there is no way around the present situation without a search for alternatives, without initiatives and efficient maneuvering.

And the situation, it must be said, is quite typical of Poland's current economic life. Meetings at many enterprises in various cities throughout the country (the television plant in Warsaw, the (Bistona) knitwear factory in Lodz, the Lublin truck plant and the G. Cegelski machine building combine in Poznan) come to mind. Whenever the urgent problems of the enterprises were being discussed, those attending the meeting would raise the shortage of raw materials, semimanufactures and supplies as the most pressing problem.

The country's previous leadership oriented the development of the economy to a great extent toward ties with the Western economy. A great deal is being said about this at the moment in industrial enterprise collectives and party organizations. Numerous examples are cited of how raw materials were brought in capitalist countries when Poland's own raw materials could have been used or how the operation of entire production lines was dependent on some particular input also acquired from the West. "And our opponents took advantage of this situation," Marian Marek, assembly shop team-leader at the Lublin truck plant and member of the PZPR Central Committee said. "That is why the blockade imposed by them, the economic sanctions and the ban on the delivery of raw materials and supplies have hit our already disorganized economy so badly. We should learn some lessons from this, and rely more on our own resources [sily] and the help of our friends in the socialist countries. Enormous importance is attached to the international assistance received from the USSR, of which we are speaking with particular warmth at the moment, following the visit by a party-state delegation to Moscow.

According to information coming in from the regions, people are becoming increasingly active. Workers, specialists and enterprise leaders understand that in the present conditions it is precisely efficient maneuvering -- of raw materials, supplies and manpower -- that will make it possible to use the powerful economic potential created by the country during the years of people's power.

The active involvement of the large detachment of Polish scientists, engineers and technicians in solving this task could have a major impact. "Technical and economic activation groups" are currently being formed at enterprises. They are carrying out a thorough analysis of the production situation and are seeking ways of improving organization and technology, and of transferring -- where necessary -- to new types of production and switching their output over to local raw material resources. In a word, it is a question of imparting the additional impetus so essential to production at the moment.

Polish Minister on Soviet Aid

LD230034 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1800 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Statement by Zbigniew Szalajda, Polish minister of metallurgy and engineering industry, to unidentified Moscow Radio correspondent in Moscow; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] I would like to say that our talks here were an important episode in the great and broad work we are now carrying out. They started a few weeks ago with Soviet specialists in Warsaw, Poland, in our enterprises, under the leadership of Comrade Lakhtin, deputy chairman of the Planning Commission. They continued here during the next weeks and days, and this week -- which I must say was very busy, very exhausting and tense -- we finalized many matters, but we are still seeking agreement as to further cooperation in many basic, fundamental matters for the large area of our economy which I represent. This could be reduced to groups of problems, since it is impossible to speak here of all the details.

We met here with many ministries, the ministries in such fields as the electronic industry, the Ministry of Communications-Equipment Industry, the Ministry of the Aviation Industry, the Ministry of the Automotive Industry, and the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building. Our meetings at the Ministries of Ferrous and Nonferrous Metallurgy were very important. They did not so much focus on the full employment of our potential or the typical cooperation of foundries, but especially dealt with assistance to us regarding everything that these ministries produce, to be specific: pig iron, materials in short supply and important products of nonferrous metallurgy. Well, it should suffice for me to mention chromium, molybdenum, vanadium, titanium, copper, zinc, lead -- elements without which no industry can function.

Well, then, the problem groups could be summed up thus: first, production capacities and Soviet help with materials we have been importing until now from the second area [drugi obszar platniczy]. The Soviet comrades want to help us and will help us -- as I am able to say after these talks -- so that we can produce more finished goods for export to, but not only to, the USSR.

Then comes the matter of a very thorough technical and technological cooperation in the area of eliminating (?or) substituting these materials, components and industrial products which up to now we have been importing from the second area so that the industry could work.

Then there are the raw materials of which I already spoke. In this connection I must say that for the Soviet economy these are also very difficult problems. They are in short supply here, and we used here, I must say, in the atmosphere we found here, the phrase "Share and share alike" that which is now badly needed by Poland.

There is also the fourth group of problems. We shall try very hard to make our relationship even closer in the field of industrial cooperation, deliveries and in technical and technological cooperation.

And so a wide market for supplies is opening up here in which we shall be able to keep accounts in normal, good partner-like but honest trade relations and buy in return imported strategic [strategiczne] raw materials in short supply. And I shall say frankly that this is taking place in an extraordinarily cordial atmosphere -- extraordinarily attuned to helping us, as I said in this phrase "Share and share alike." Well, I must say that I am after all an optimist and that our industry will begin to live thanks to this cooperation, thanks to these ties, and I think this is a great thing, a turning point on which in all sectors in the country, in all enterprises, above all in the engineering and technical cadres we all must very intensely, very persistently [words indistinct] win this matter. We must tie a bond with a partner who has large markets for supplies and who has, so to speak, all the materials essential for our economy.

POLISH-BUILT SHIP FOR USSR TO BE NAMED SUSLOV

LD230938 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 23 Mar 82

[Text] A sea-going passenger vessel will be named after Mikhail Andreyevich Suslov, eminent activist of the CPSU, of the Soviet state and of the international communist movement. The liner is being built by Polish shipbuilders along with a series of passenger vessels for the Soviet Union. The new ship will join the fleet of the Far East shipping line.

PRAVDA PUBLISHES COMMUNIQUE ON CHNOUPEK VISIT

PM231045 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 82 p 4

["Joint Soviet-Czechoslovak Communique"]

[Text] Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and Czechoslovak foreign minister, was in the Soviet Union on a visit 18 through 20 March 1982.

Talks took place between A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and B. Chnoupek in a friendly, businesslike atmosphere, examining questions of the development of Soviet-Czechoslovak relations and the most urgent international problems.

The ministers noted with satisfaction that Soviet-Czechoslovak relations grow deeper and stronger every year in all spheres on the firm basis of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance and the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism. The decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 16th CPCZ Congress and the agreements reached during meetings between L.I. Brezhnev and G. Husak define the prospects for the further development of Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation in all its main directions.

Both sides stressed that the friendship, collaboration and cooperation between the USSR and the CSSR accord with the fundamental, long-term interests of both countries' peoples and the interests of European and international security, peace and socialism.

The ministers reaffirmed the Soviet Union's and Czechoslovakia's determination to strengthen the cohesion of the socialist community states, which are united in a defensive alliance -- the Warsaw Pact Organization -- and invariable act in the international arena as champions of peace, freedom and the peoples' independence. They noted the ever-increasing significance of the socialist countries' close cooperation within CEMA.

In the course of the exchange of opinions on the current international situation the ministers expressed serious concern at the exacerbation of tension caused by the actions of the NATO military bloc, headed by the United States. These circles, having embarked on the path of whipping up the arms race on an unprecedented scale and seeking to wreck the established military-strategic equilibrium in Europe and in the world to their own advantage, are seeking to obtain military superiority with a view to implementing a policy of strength and diktat toward other states.

The Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, together with the other fraternal socialist states, counterpose to this dangerous militarist course a consistent course of detente, prevention of nuclear war, coordination of effective measures in the disarmament sphere and radical improvement of the international situation through talks. It was stressed that the safeguarding of lasting peace for all countries and peoples is promoted by the peace program for the eighties put forward at the 26th CPSU Congress and supported by the 16th CPCZ Congress and by the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and other fraternal countries -- initiatives which are being implemented to develop the peace program.

On behalf of their countries, the ministers stressed the responsibility of governments, statesmen, politicians and public figures to the peoples for averting the danger of war and preserving peace.

The sides condemned the U.S. decision to launch large-scale production of chemical and neutron weapons, the proclamation of the essentially aggressive doctrine of the permissibility of nuclear war, and also the blocking of the work of various forums which are examining specific problems in limiting the arms race and in disarmament.

In the course of the talks particular attention was devoted to the situation in Europe.

The ministers reaffirmed that the USSR and the CSSR will continue to advocate preservation of all the positive results of joint efforts on the path mapped out by the CSCE and to give the necessary rebuff to the actions of militarist circles in the NATO bloc directed against the socialist community. They resolutely condemned interference by the United States and other NATO countries in Poland's internal affairs and their attempts to hinder the normalization of the situation in and around Poland as a direct, flagrant violation of the UN Charter, the principles of interstate relations proclaimed in the Helsinki Final Act and the norms of intercourse between states established over the centuries.

B. Chnoupek stated that the CSSR places a high value on the results of talks between L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, during the recent visit to the USSR by a Polish party and state delegation.

The sides noted that the obstructionist stance adopted by the United States and certain NATO countries at the Madrid meeting runs counter to the interests of European security and cooperation and pursues the goal of poisoning the international atmosphere and thereby making it easier to implement U.S. militarist plans, including plans with respect to Western Europe. The hope was expressed that ultimately a sober political approach and reason will prevail and that the Madrid meeting, when it resumes, will adopt positive decisions, above all on convening a conference on measures to strengthen confidence and security and promote disarmament in Europe.

Discussing the state of affairs at the Vienna talks, the ministers stressed that the draft agreement submitted by the socialist countries on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments and associated measures in Central Europe at the first stage contains all the elements for the attainment of the necessary accords. The USSR, the CSSR and the other socialist countries participating in the Vienna talks expect a constructive response from the Western partners in the talks.

The Soviet and Czechoslovak sides are united in the view that the problem of reducing nuclear weapons in Europe is at present the key security problem on the continent. It was noted with satisfaction that there is growing resistance among the peoples in Europe to U.S. plans to deploy new types of nuclear missile weapons on the territory of a number of West European NATO countries.

The Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia firmly advocate reducing military confrontation in Europe, first and foremost nuclear confrontation, and ensuring military equilibrium at the lowest possible level. In this connection they attach extremely great significance to the attainment of concrete results at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on nuclear arms limitation in Europe. B. Chnoupek stated that Czechoslovakia fully supports the USSR's businesslike, constructive stance at these talks.

The CSSR foreign minister stressed particularly that the Soviet Union's decision on the question of limiting nuclear weapons in Europe, which L.I. Brezhnev spoke of at the 17th USSR Trade Union Congress, is a far-reaching step demonstrating the Soviet Union's unswerving will for peace. It is first and foremost a question of imposing unilaterally a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear arms in the European part of the USSR -- that is, freezing, in quantitative and qualitative terms, the arms already deployed there and stopping the replacement of old missiles with newer ones, and of the Soviet Union's intention of reducing this year on its own initiative, if there is no new deterioration in the international situation, a certain quantity of its medium-range missiles. This new peace initiative by the Soviet Union is intended to facilitate the attainment of a reasonable agreement on a major reduction in both sides' nuclear facilities in Europe on the basis of strict observance of the principle of equality and identical security.

The ministers expressed the hope that Western countries -- first and foremost those directly concerned -- will treat these decisions on the Soviet Union's part with the utmost seriousness and will take constructive steps in reply in the spirit of good will, and that the American side will display a more realistic approach to the discussion of the problem of nuclear arms limitation in Europe.

B. Chnoupek also stressed the importance of the Soviet Union's proposals on renouncing the deployment of long-range sea- and land-based cruise missiles and on the mutual limitation of naval operations, in particular the limitation of navigation by missile-carrying submarines on both sides to within mutually agreed limits.

Both sides came out in favor of the speediest resumption of talks between the USSR and the United States on strategic arms limitation and stressed the danger of their unjustified postponement by the American side. They stressed in this connection that the Soviet Union's new initiatives offer additional opportunities for accords on nuclear arms limitation questions which could constitute a major contribution to the cause of strengthening security both in Europe and throughout the world.

During the discussion of the results of the 36th UN General Assembly session it was noted that the policy of peace, curbing the arms race, and detente has put down deep roots on all continents. The ministers stated that the USSR and Czechoslovakia will cooperate both in the preparations for the second UN General Assembly special session on disarmament, to be held in 1982, and in the course of the session itself in order to promote fruitful work by the session and the adoption of effective decisions.

Examining other international questions, the sides expressed concern at the Near East situation, which has been further exacerbated as a result of Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights. The U.S. policy, which is aimed at consolidating and extending the U.S. military-political presence in the region, can only lead to a further heightening of tension. The principled stance of the USSR and the CSSR in favor of an all-embracing, just settlement in the Near East and their unchanging support for the just cause of the Arab states and peoples, including the Arab people of Palestine, were reaffirmed.

The USSR and the CSSR fully support the efforts of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea to protect their sovereignty and independence against hegemonist pressure and blackmail and to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, friendship and cooperation.

The sides again reaffirmed their support for the just struggle of Namibian patriots headed by the South West Africa People's Organization -- the Namibian people's sole legitimate representative -- for their motherland's freedom and independence, and came out in favor of a Namibia settlement based on all the UN decisions on this question. They attach great importance to the 5 February Angolan-Cuban statement, which reflects the well-considered approach of those two countries' governments, which have a sincere interest in the immediate resolution of southern Africa's problems on a just basis.

The ministers stressed the dangerous nature of the U.S. whipping up of tension over socialist Cuba, threats against Nicaragua and the flagrant interference implemented by the American administration in El Salvador's affairs. They declared the USSR's and the CSSR's solidarity with the Latin American peoples' struggle for the right to determine their own destiny without outside interference.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of complete mutual understanding and unity of views.

On behalf of the CPCZ leadership and the CSSR Government, B. Chnoupek conveyed to A.A. Gromyko an invitation to pay an official friendly visit to the CSSR. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

MATERIAL ON SOLOMENTSEV VISIT TO BULGARIA

Remarks at Computer Plant

LD182346 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1915 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] A meeting of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship was held today at the computer plant at Staraya Zagora, one of the largest enterprises in the electronics industry of socialist Bulgaria. The employees of the enterprise warmly received the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers and deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

In greeting the Soviet guests, Nedev, first secretary of the Staraya Zagora Okrug Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, stressed that the destinies of the people of Bulgaria have changed because of the impact of developing Bulgarian-Soviet friendship and cooperation. This also applies fully to Staraya Zagora Okrug which, over a short historical period, has been transformed into a powerful center of Bulgarian machinebuilding, power engineering and chemicals.

Comrade Solomentsev spoke next. He said in particular: It is with particular joy that I pass on to you a greeting of spiritual warmth and unfailing love and wishes of peace, prosperity and further prosperity to your wonderful motherland from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, a long-standing and loyal friend of the Bulgarian people. Our present meeting coincides with the 34th anniversary of the signing of the treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria.

The cohesion, ideological and political unity of the CPSU and the Bulgarian Communist Party are the heart of Soviet-Bulgarian fraternity. In the manner of sincere and loyal friends, Comrade Solomentsev continued, Soviet people are gratified by the wonderful successes of the Bulgarian working people in the building of a developed socialist society and the achievement of the lofty goals determined by the 12th Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party. In noting at the 26th CPSU Congress the varied and positive experience of the fraternal countries in the solution of national economic tasks, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev placed special emphasis on the significance of the useful forms of agroindustrial cooperation developed in Bulgaria. These achievements reflect the immense creative opportunities of the socialist economy.

The preservation of peace, Comrade Solomentsev continued, is a most important prerequisite for the solution of all our creative tasks. At the congress of the USSR trade unions, which is currently taking place in Moscow, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev submitted a new package of peaceful initiatives. The aim of these initiatives is to make practical steps toward the improvement of the situation and to turn the development of international affairs in the direction of detente and peace. We have been deeply touched by the fraternal solidarity which the Bulgarian Communists and working people have shown with the new peace initiatives submitted by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. For their part the CPSU, the Soviet Union and our people support in every possible way the detailed peace action program which was proclaimed at the 12th Bulgarian Communist Party Congress and developed in subsequent speeches by Comrade Zhivkov, a program which determines Bulgaria's efforts to strengthen detente, to intensify mutual understanding and cooperation between the peoples.

In conclusion, Comrade Solomentsev, on behalf of the Communist Party, the Supreme Soviet and Government of the USSR, on behalf of the many nationalities comprising the Soviet people, wished the fraternal Bulgarian people and their Communist Party further successes in socialist construction.

Talk With Zhivkov

LD222020 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] Todor Zhivkov, the leader of Bulgaria, today received a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers. A conversation took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. Todor Zhivkov gave a high evaluation of comprehensive Soviet-Bulgarian cooperation. A dinner was given in honor of the delegation of Soviet parliamentarians on behalf of Todor Zhivkov.

Departure 23 March

LD231220 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 23 Mar 82

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, led by Comrade Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, left Sofia today for Moscow. The delegation was in Sofia at the invitation of the Bulgarian National Assembly on an official friendly visit. At the airport the Soviet guests were seen off by Todorov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the National Assembly, and other officials.

CPSU DELEGATION RECEIVED BY BCP'S DOYNOV

PM181553 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 82 p 4

[Text] TASS -- In accordance with the plan for interparty relations between the CPSU and the BCP, a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by V.I. Davydov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Transport and Communications Department, visited Bulgaria 9 through 18 March to familiarize itself with experience of the party leadership of transport. The delegation was received by O. Doynov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the BCP Central Committee.

TALYZIN WRITES ON ECONOMIC LINK WITH BULGARIA

AU181534 Sofia BTA in English 1446 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Sofia, 18 Mar (BTA) -- RABOTNICHESKO DELO carries today an article by Mr Nikolay Talyzin, deputy chairman of the Ministerial Council of the Soviet Union. The author says that the foreign economic ties between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria are characterized with steadily growing trade figures, with deepening processes of specialization and cooperation, with dynamically rising technical cooperation in the outfitting of various economic projects. About bilateral trade over the last decade, he writes that it has been rising at an average annual rate of 14 per cent.

Mr Nikolay Talyzin dwells also on the technical cooperation the Soviet Union has rendered Bulgaria. With the aid of the Soviet Union more than 200 large-scale industrial projects were built in Bulgaria, and another 130 are in a process of building up, reconstruction and modernization. On their part the Bulgarian builders are taking part in the construction of industrial capacities in Tumen area, the Kursk magnetic anomaly and in Central Asia.

Further on the deputy chairman of the Ministerial Council of the USSR notes that an important role in providing a planned development of the Bulgarian economy is played by the stable rates of Soviet deliveries of basic fuels and raw materials and what is more under favourable terms in comparison with those at the world market.

A typical feature of the Soviet-Bulgarian trade relations is the rising volume of mutual deliveries of machines and equipment. The latter is for its part a result of the intensive integration processes and, most of all, of the specialization and cooperation in such sphere as the manufacture of lathes, transport and agricultural mechanical engineering, the car-making and electronic industry.

Mr Nikolay Talyzin stresses that the settlement of the economic tasks of the Soviet Union and Bulgaria is associated with the drafting of large-scale joint economic, scientific and technological programmes for a longer period. These programmes provide for planned coordination and association of major material, financial and labour resources.

The author dwells also on the bilateral economic cooperation in the current five-year period. The relative share of specialized production in mutual deliveries will be about one-fourth. Such a specialized production in the Soviet exports for Bulgaria are the lathes, the tractors, the grain-harvesters, the road-building machines, the cars, the equipment for ship-building and the light industry, of the refrigeratory equipment, the electronic components, etc. In the Bulgarian exports these are the machines tools, the trucks, the various farm machinery, the spare parts and units for passenger cars, the telephone exchanges, etc.

Mr Nikolay Talyzin holds a major significance for the doing away with the weak sports in the supplies of the economies of the two states.

The article touches also upon the question of scientific and technological cooperation between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria. In the 1976-1980 period more than 200 Soviet and 150 Bulgarian institutes and organizations have cooperated in the working out of 540 themes, many of which are already transferred or are to be transferred very soon in the economies of the two countries. Ever more widely are used new forms of cooperation, such as the foundation of joint laboratories, scientific and production associations, etc.

In connection with the constantly growing dimensions of cooperation, the author stresses the need of new forms of relationship. On the agenda is the problem of improving the direct ties between the branch ministries, the production associations and enterprises.

PRAVDA CITES HONECKER-'ARAFAT COMMUNIQUE

PM220759 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 82 p 5

[TASS report: "Constructive Approach"]

[Text] Berlin, 12 Mar -- The socialist countries' peace-loving policy is a realistic alternative to the adventurist course of confrontation and the arms race pursued by the most aggressive circles of imperialism, above all in the United States, says a joint communique published here on the results of talks between E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, and Y. 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. He was in the GDR on an official friendly visit as head of a PLO delegation.

The GDR and the PLO, the document stresses, will continue to make a constructive contribution to improving the world political climate. The sides resolutely condemn the aggressive actions of imperialist circles, which are creating a serious threat to the peoples' vital interests, and express their interest in concrete, positive results to the Soviet-American talks in Geneva, placing a high value on the USSR's constructive stance in this connection.

The sides criticized the policy of the U.S. administration, which is trying to use events in Poland as a pretext for stepping up the policy of threats, boycott and open interference in Poland's internal affairs.

Expressing deep concern over the Near East situation both sides declare that the Palestine question is and will remain the main component of a stable, just resolution of the region's problems. They decisively reject Israel's policy of annexation of the occupied Arab territories. The GDR and the PLO welcome the USSR's proposal on convening an international conference on the Near East.

As the communique notes, on the basis of the fact that the PLO is the legitimate, true representative of the Palestinian people and in view of the fact that the PLO office in the GDR has diplomatic status, the sides agreed to elevate the PLO mission in the GDR to embassy rank.

VORONKOV HITS DECAYING 'NORDIC BALANCE'

PM221157 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 12 Mar 82 p 2

["Debate" article by Lev Voronkov, researcher at Soviet World Economics and International Relations Institute: "Increasingly Costly and Pointless"]

[Text] The Nordic countries' security doctrines are generally collectively called the "Nordic balance," which is credited with functioning as the foremost instrument for the preservation of peace and stability in the Nordic area. The idea of "Nordic balance," described by Alva Myrdal [Swedish disarmament advocate] as a "fixed cliché," is now more often working as an obstacle to positive changes in this area in the spirit of detente. How balanced is this "balance," then?

In Norway and Denmark NATO continues to expand its military infrastructure. Depots for heavy equipment intended for other NATO nations' troops are being set up there. NATO has staff and navigation stations and other stations for its military needs there. Major exercises are held there regularly. Thus during peacetime intensive war preparations are going on there which are directed at the Soviet Union.

Therefore in the 1980's Denmark's and Norway's so-called base policies seem very different from the way they seemed originally, and the gradual relaxation and dissolution of these policies continue.

These countries' nuclear arms policy -- that is, not to allow nuclear arms on their territory in peacetime -- has a restraining effect on the tension in this region. However, the two countries do not exclude the possibility that they could accept nuclear arms in a "crisis situation" and are for the time being unwilling to renounce this possibility. In other words they do not want to exclude the possibility of their territory's being open to the NATO allies for a nuclear attack on the USSR and the other socialist countries, despite the fact that they therefore risk being the target of a nuclear counterattack.

Presumably Denmark and Norway do not intend to accept nuclear arms for use on their own territory. Their participation in NATO's war preparations and their attitude toward nuclear arms in an extremely vague "crisis situation" are interconnected and have a clearly offensive thrust. It would be strange if the USSR did not take this into consideration and did not have at its disposal the means to neutralize such a strategy.

But if the Nordic countries agreed to participate in a nuclear-free zone it would mean their abandoning this offensive strategy. The USSR would not need the above-mentioned means and the risk of these countries' being devastated by nuclear arms would disappear. Such a decision on the part of Denmark and Norway would be an important practical step for detente in this area.

It is obvious that this would primarily be in the interests of the Norwegians and Danes themselves. In Finland, which pursues an independent defense policy, there are no war preparations comparable to those in Denmark and Norway. Up to now no joint Soviet-Finnish military measures have been adopted, nor have there been any bilateral consultations of the type outlined in the 1948 Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Treaty. Such consultations would only become necessary in the event of an attack or the actual threat of an attack on Finland or on the USSR via Finnish territory.

You need a vivid imagination to describe the present situation as a "balance." This is not all. It is a well-known fact that Sweden's nonaligned policy has played and is still playing an important stabilizing role in this region and makes a contribution to the relaxation of tension there.

One of the cornerstones of traditional Swedish neutralist policy is the maintenance of the rest of the world's confidence in the country's determination to defend its neutrality and its ability to do so with a strong defense force.

But at the level which military technology has now reached, and as rapidly as it is developing, it is becoming increasingly costly and hopeless for Sweden to maintain an independent defense capacity able to withstand today's nuclear arms or even to prevent Swedish territory, airspace or territorial waters being used in nuclear attacks against the USSR and its allies.

The implementation of the NATO council's December 1979 decision to deploy a further 572 Pershing II and cruise missiles would hardly be any guarantee of Swedish neutrality in a "crisis situation." Nuclear arms could be stationed in neighboring Denmark and Norway in such a situation, and it is difficult to reach targets in the Soviet Union without passing over Sweden.

If these trends are projected a few years into the future it is possible to claim with a high degree of probability that the continuing worsening of "the Nordic balance's" imbalance could have a destabilizing effect on the whole of North Europe. For Sweden, which has refrained from having its own nuclear arms and signed the nonproliferation agreement, guarantees from the nuclear powers that the country's nuclear-free status would be respected would strengthen its security more reliably and reinforce confidence in its neutralist policy.

In the long discussion surrounding the idea of a nuclear-free zone there have been weighty arguments against the central significance of the proposal or any proofs that it would harm the Nordic countries' security. Nor has the discussion dealt with the practical requirements for the establishment of such a zone, but has in fact concentrated on presenting one-sided demands on the USSR. Meeting these demands has been formulated as a prerequisite for the Nordic countries' beginning internal negotiations for such a zone, negotiations whose outcome is difficult to predict. The cart has been put before the horse.

The unconstructiveness of this attitude is confirmed by the fact that it is said at the same time that unilateral Soviet guarantees are unacceptable. The Soviet Union is a nuclear power with all the consequences such a status involves, and unilateral limitations on military activities in a single region (in this case the Kola Peninsula) would not strengthen security for the USSR (nor for the United States), to put it mildly.

The situation is different for the Nordic countries. The formation of a nuclear-free zone affects the peoples' security and would make it possible to avoid total destruction by nuclear arms.

Therefore it is highly illogical of individual Nordic countries to demand that one of the nuclear powers, which incidentally is prepared to give guarantees for the nuclear-free zone, renounce its own security interests. As is well known, the USSR is ready to commit itself to not using nuclear arms against the states which join the zone and to signing a multilateral agreement to this effect with all the states involved, or bilateral agreements with each of these countries individually. Such a zone would be even more important for the participating Nordic countries if the nuclear powers within NATO also gave such guarantees. However, the USSR would not make its commitment dependent on a positive attitude toward the zone on the part of the other nuclear powers.

In addition Leonid Brezhnev has declared that the USSR does not exclude the possibility of discussing the question of adopting certain measures on the USSR's own territory in connection with the formation of a Nordic nuclear-free zone, stressing that "these steps could be quite considerable."

Certain such measures have been touched on before. At the same time the hopes of being able to win for NATO one-sided strategic advantages through "regional security measures" must be described as unrealistic. A few months ago the U.S. Navy secretary said that the United States must acquire the naval capacity to be able to attack the Kola Peninsula. For the USSR such realities do not have a regional character but affect the global balance of power.

Measures on the USSR's territory in connection with the formation of a nuclear-free zone in the Nordic area must therefore take account of a nuclear attack from the sea areas lying immediately off northern Europe. If the proposal put forward in Madrid by the USSR that the confidence-building measures on Soviet territory be extended right up to the Urals (and therefore include the Kola Peninsula) and that the West correspondingly extend its confidence-building measures to the sea areas, islands and airspace outside of Europe is implemented, further opportunities to reduce tension in northern Europe would be opened up.

The question of a nuclear-free zone in the Nordic area affects the Nordic countries' long-term interests, and it is up to these countries to determine their attitude toward such a zone, taking their peoples' national interests as their departure point. The implementation of this idea would in practice mean that the Nordic countries would be choosing detente and admitting that there is no alternative to detente. Such a "Nordic balance" could be a good example of what responsible efforts states can make to strengthen peace and to avert the threat of nuclear war.

FRENCH REGIONAL ELECTION RESULTS ASSESSED

Left's Difficulties

LD222328 Moscow in French to Europe 1730 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] Mikhail Dobrov comments on the results of the second round in the French cantonal elections. This is what he writes:

This was the first consultation to be held since the leftwing coalition came to power 10 months ago. During this relatively brief period, the government policy of economic and social reforms has not produced tangible results. Unemployment remains public enemy No 1. The rate of inflation remains very high. The protection of purchasing power also represents an acute problem. The nationalizations have not yet borne fruit. At the same time, the voters could not have failed to notice the lack of impact of the reforms as well as the will to achieve a compromise with the right, manifested on occasion by socialist leaders in a good number of social-economic questions.

The opposition bourgeois parties took advantage of the difficulties faced by the majority. Having forgotten with extraordinary recklessness the fact that they had ruled for over 20 years, the right used all the means available to it in order to lay the blame on the leftwing majority for the deplorable legacy that it handed over. Using the demagoguery of its enormous propaganda apparatus, it unleashed a virulent anticommunist and antigovernment campaign that proved effective, especially in the middle classes.

Furthermore, during the second round, the transfer of votes, which was handled badly through the fault of the socialists and the leftwing radicals, damaged the left. Even though the communist candidates were best positioned, they were nevertheless beaten.

The rightwing press and especially LE FIGARO hastened to declare that the majority of the French people reject the government in power -- a conclusion that is as hasty as it is unfounded.

It would be truer to say that, weary of the irresponsible promises of the previous bourgeois governments, the French people are displaying a logic of impatience at the very moment when they have a government of the left. It is only the acceleration of large-scale reforms and a more coherent policy in the interest of the workers of France that would be of a kind to satisfy this impatience and the will for change.

Election Results

LD222140 Moscow TASS in English 2136 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] Paris, 22 Mar TASS -- Local elections ended in France: Half of the compositions of general councils, self-government bodies of French departments was renewed.

According to official data published by the Ministry of the Interior with taking into account the data that was received from overseas departments, among 2,014 members of general councils are 509 socialists, 198 communists and 61 left radicals.

Representatives of the main opposition parties, Union Pour La Democratie Francaise and Rassemblement Pour La Republique earned, respectively, 470 and 336 seats, other seats were distributed among representatives of small groupings.

The results of the elections show that even though the left parties managed to improve their position in the second round in which they received about 52 percent of the poll, this was not enough to overcome the lagging behind resulting from the first round. Altogether the left parties lost 100 seats in general councils.

FRENCH-U.S. DIFFERENCES BELIE SHOW OF UNITY

PM221507 IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 5

[Dispatch from correspondent A. Krivopalov: "Following a Trip Across the Ocean"]

[Text] Paris -- Head of the French Republic F. Mitterrand has visited Washington. After flying there on Friday he was back in Paris on Saturday.

Although they were planned long ago, the urgency of these talks startled Parisian observers somewhat. They had been writing that the two state leaders were to have a personal meeting in May -- closer to the Versailles summit of the seven leading Western powers. The French press claimed that the changes in the agreed program were made on Paris' initiative.

This was the president's fourth meeting since F. Mitterrand's victory in last May's elections. All the signs are that the "sizing-up" period is over and there is now felt to be greater mutual understanding between the United States and France. Talking to journalists after his meeting with Mitterrand, Reagan even said that they had met as "friends." The French side has pointed out on a number of occasions that its relations with the United States are those of an ally.

"Atlanticism" has indeed been somewhat strengthened in this sphere. F. Mitterrand has in effect endorsed the U.S. plans to deploy offensive U.S. nuclear missiles in West Europe. In the view of observers the stances of Washington and Paris in the Near East have also moved closer. The press points out that Washington and Paris are also "in solidarity" regarding, for example, Poland and the "Afghan question."

Nevertheless, for all their efforts to conceal them, long-standing differences still exist between France and the United States. The dictates issuing from the New World are causing annoyance and resentment in West Europe in general and Paris in particular.

The direct and blatant pressure exerted by the U.S. administration in connection with economic sanctions against the USSR and other socialist states and with the signing of contracts to supply West European countries with Soviet natural gas have given rise to resistance on the banks of the Seine. U.S. financial and economic policy is a source of resolute protests in France. The ploy of raising interest rates directly affects the interests of the United States' partners and is destabilizing business life. This was also stated in the recent joint statement by President F. Mitterrand and FRG Chancellor H. Schmidt. France and Germany are even prepared to mobilize the "Ten" to resist the United States' "egotism."

But perhaps the most urgent question compelling the French head of state to bring forward his consultations in Washington is the situation in Central America. Paris, which is trying to pursue a line of its own in its relations with developing countries, has substantial differences with the United States.

France is alarmed by the open support which Washington is giving to murderous dictatorships and by the explosive situation in the region. Its diplomacy, as the press has repeatedly stated, does not want national liberation movements to regard the socialist countries as their only allies. The Reagan administration's uncompromising and inept policy is making this more difficult. But, observers in Paris believe, citing Washington sources, the White House has no intention of changing its habits. It is deaf to any exhortations to soften its imperious line, and in this sense F. Mitterrand's visit could scarcely change anything.

PATOLICHEV RECEIVES FRG BUSINESSMEN

LD221440 Moscow TASS in English 1342 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 22 Mar, TASS -- The USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Nikolay Patolichev today received prominent representatives of the FRG business circles -- Chairman of the Supervisory Council of the "Fried. Krupp" concern Berthold Beitz and the chairman of the board of the concern Wilhelm Scheider.

They discussed questions of expanding business ties between Soviet foreign trade organisations and the "Fried. Krupp" concern.

AL-QADHDHAFI REMARKS TO LIBYAN STUDENTS CITED

LD191818 Moscow TASS in English 1643 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Mar TASS -- Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, has sharply criticized U.S. aggressive policy.

Addressing here the Arab students studying in Libya, he stated that the U.S. administration, by encouraging the Israeli militarists in every way urges them on to the seizure of new Arab territories. Such a policy, he stated, puts in jeopardy the freedom and independence of all Arab countries.

Tel Aviv, enjoying the patronage of the USA as disregarding world public opinion, has unleashed an undeclared war against the Arab population of the occupied territories and neighboring Arab countries. Al-Qadhdhafi pointed out the need to create a broad front of the progressive forces of the Arab nation for a resolute struggle against the hostile policy of the USA and the militarist circles of Israel.

MOSCOW SCORES U.S. PLANS AGAINST LIBYA

PM221311 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed "Rejoinder" from V. Neznamov "World Today" feature: "No letup"]

[Text] In an interview for the weekly U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT CIA chief W. Casey has made new attacks on Libya. Under the hypnotic influence of his own trickery, intensified and fueled by State Department aides and the U.S. press, the CIA head came right out and said that "Libyan terrorists," having allegedly gotten into the United States, "still pose a threat to President Reagan."

This pronouncement was so blatant and clumsy that even the mass news media which had previously led the anti-Libyan chorus refrained from commenting. In fact, none other than FBI Director W. Webster (and he should know) admitted that his department has no evidence of a so-called "Libyan plot."

This is not the first time R. Reagan's administration has used the notorious "Libyan terrorism" thesis as a cover for its own nasty activities in the international arena and in the United States. Apart from its main aim -- to prepare U.S. public opinion for possible economic and military "sanctions" against Tripoli -- the original purpose of Washington's big lie, NEWSWEEK writes, was to distract Americans' attention from two undesirable topics -- El Salvador and the struggle raging over the Reagan budget. Now, to all appearances, this myth is being used in an attempt to conceal a new series of adventures against Libya and against other countries.

MOSCOW NOTES SUPPORT FOR IRANIAN LEFTISTS

LD190220 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2110 GMT 18 Mar 82

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Yevgeniy Kachanov]

[Text] Iranian authorities arrested 30 civil servants charged by laws with links to the leftwing [hypocrites] organization Mohadedine-e Khalq. This was reported by UPI, citing Tehran radio. These employees, the report says, worked for state radio and television. They are also accused of stealing official documents. The report does not say what sort of documents these were.

I remind you, comrades, that the Mojadedine-e Khalq played a considerable role in overthrowing the Shah's regime, but last summer the Islamic authorities banned its activity and repressed the organization. According to data on hand, at least 2,000 members have already been executed. Nonetheless, observers consider that the Mojahedin-e Khalq continues to have a large number of supporters in Iran, particularly among young people.

BAKU LAUDS SOVIET-IRANIAN COOPERATION

GF201619 Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, new and revolutionary Iran is observing Nowruz for the fourth time. This is the spring festival. [passage indistinct]

Each Nowruz makes us happy and inspires hope in us, strengthening our confidence in auspicious moves and justice. However, having confidence in justice is not enough. It is necessary to wage a struggle for justice. The Iranian people (?are on the bastions) waging a heroic struggle for justice. This struggle was also against the shah's [word indistinct] and U.S. (?oppression).

The Iranian revolution gave the Iranian people the opportunity to set up a new life and to determine their own future. [Words indistinct] many hurdles in making use of the opportunities created. The imperialists are employing all possible means to prevent the Iranian people from successfully resolving [words indistinct] which (?came into being) after the revolution.

Speaking at the 17th Congress of the AUCCTU, Leonid Brezhnev accused the imperialists of trying to undermine the independence and sovereignty of the peoples. They are endeavoring to change the political map of the world. The imperialists have declared large regions as zones vital to their interests. One of these regions is the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. The United States has been deploying warships in this region. It has also been enlarging bases and organizing maneuvers to threaten states in that area.

The imperialists, who deem it their right to issue orders to foreign peoples and states and to punish them as they like, are using every means to suppress the Iranian revolution and [words indistinct]. The imperialists have established links with Iranian counter-revolutionaries and are taking part in assassination attempts against the Iranian Government. They are also making charges against Iran in the press and [word indistinct]. Recently, the New York TIMES made detailed information available (?on all this).

Our socialist country has a completely different approach toward Iran, its revolution and people. The Soviet Union maintains relations with foreign countries, including Iran, within the framework of principles stipulating solidarity, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, noninterference in internal affairs, peace, cooperation and neighborly relations. This was clearly confirmed by developments in 1360 [21 March 1981 to 20 March 1982].

We can state in confidence on the eve of yet another Nowruz festival that Soviet-Iranian cooperation has been developing. Regardless of [words indistinct] and angry anti-Soviet voices heard from time to time in Iran, cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iran is broadening. This cooperation has produced numerous auspicious results and it continues to do so. Over 150 industrial establishments (?have been) set up on Iranian soil with Soviet aid. [words indistinct] the Esfahan complex, [words indistinct] and the (?power-plant) on the Aras River and other industrial establishments are among them.

It is appropriate to say that establishments set up in Iran with Soviet aid are operating continuously and contributing significantly to the Iranian economy. These establishments, in addition to the right granted to Iran to use Soviet territory for transit purposes, are helping Iran stand successfully against the [word indistinct] intentions of those who (?adopt) economic sanctions and every other kind of measure to weaken Iran's economy.

It is natural therefore that the Iranian people wish to further develop the auspicious relations between Iran and the Soviet Union, angrily objecting in the meantime to U.S. imperialist policies. For example, the result of the visit paid to the Soviet Union by the Iranian delegation headed by Hasan Ghafoori-Fard has been welcomed in our country. An agreement was signed at the time on further development of cooperation between the two countries in the field of power generation.

Dear listeners, it is our wish that the year 1361 [22 March 1982 to 21 March 1983] will be one of more results in cooperation and neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and Iran. We congratulate you on the occasion of the Nowruz festival. We wish you and your families good health and prosperity. May all your [words indistinct] wishes and hopes come true.

BREZHNEV, KUWAITI LEADER EXCHANGE GREETINGS

LD091620 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 9 Mar TASS -- Leonid Brezhnev has addressed a telegram to the Amir of the State of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, conveying congratulations and wishes of well-being to the amir and the friendly people of Kuwait on the occasion of the national holiday of the state of Kuwait. "I express the conviction", the telegram says, "that good relations existing between our countries will continue to develop further for the benefit of the Soviet and Kuwaiti peoples, in the interests of the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Middle East and the consolidation of international security."

In his reply telegram the amir of the State of Kuwait expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and for his part conveyed best wishes to Leonid Brezhnev and wishes of successes to the friendly Soviet people.

The telegram expresses the conviction that cordial relations existing between the two countries will continue to develop, and that the Soviet Union can make a major contribution to the establishment of a just peace in the Middle East.

TIKHONOV, KUWAITI PREMIER EXCHANGE GREETINGS

LD111642 Moscow TASS in English 1350 GMT 11 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 11 Mar TASS -- Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Tikhonov has sent a telegram to Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait Shaykh Sa'id al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah conveying cordial congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the country's national holiday and wishes of success and well-being to the friendly people of Kuwait.

In his reply telegram the prime minister of the state of Kuwait expressed profound gratitude for the congratulations and on his part conveyed the best wishes to Nikolay Tikhonov and the wishes of further progress to the peoples of the USSR.

MAP CITES BREZHNEV MESSAGE TO KING HASSAN

LD041712 Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Marrakech, 4 Mar (MAP) -- Mr Leonid Brezhnev, head of state and secretary general of the CPSU, has sent the following message of good wishes and congratulations to King Hassan II on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of King Hassan II's accession to the throne of his ancestors.

"On the occasion of the Kingdom of Morocco's national holiday, please accept my congratulations and best wishes for prosperity and success to the fraternal Moroccan people.

"May I express the hope that the traditional relations of fruitful friendship and cooperation existing between the Soviet Union and the Kingdom of Morocco will be further strengthened for the benefit of the peoples of our two countries and in the interests of universal peace and international security."

U.S. SUPPORT OF ISRAELI ATTACKS CLAIMED

LD231250 Moscow TASS in English 1109 GMT 23 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 23 Mar, TASS -- It is an open secret that the mounting aggressive attacks by the Israeli military are a result of their all-round support and factual complicity of the American patrons, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (the RED STAR) writes today.

In such conditions Washington's far-reaching scheme was abortive: To frighten the Arab conservative regimes with a mythical "soviet military threat," with Israel and the United States which later could be converted into a broad militaristic alliance.

Nevertheless the United States does not want to renounce this undertaking, believing that to acquire allies among some Arab countries it would be enough to create outward appearance of Tel Aviv's moderation. Hence, the differences amidst American policy makers: Some suggest that the far too recalcitrant assistant be curbed, for appearances sake, according to the Baltimore SUN, may even be "flogged" while others still try to humour him.

It seems, however, that the "flogging" has to be self-inflicted. In the military-industrial complex, Congress, the mass media of the United States the influence of Zionist circles this time, too, was prevailing.

In the 1983 fiscal year Israel is allocated 2,500 million dollars in military-economic aid or 300 million dollars more than in the current year, the newspaper goes on to say. Israel is still the privileged ally and main outpost of United States imperialism in the region. It is precisely Washington's support and not some "new accents" arousing Tel Aviv's dissatisfaction, that pushes the Israeli "hawks" to more acts of aggression against the Arabs.

Thus, further strengthening of the American military presence, strengthening of the military machine of the Israeli aggressors, deceit, blackmail and pressure on Arab countries -- all this has been resorted to for the sake of implementing strategic and other plans of United States imperialism in the Near and Middle East. The Arab circles friendly to America are aware from where the real and not imaginary threats come. A number of military representatives of Saudi Arabia declared, that in their opinion, it is rather the United States and not the Soviet Union that seeks to seize the oil deposits in the Persian Gulf region some time." This cannot be expressed more clearly. The criminal policy, threatening peace and security of the peoples, cannot be disguised by any "new accents," KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says in conclusion.

TASHKENT MEETING MARKS TUNISIAN ANNIVERSARY

GF201827 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] A meeting was organized in Tashkent today to mark the 26th anniversary of the independence of Tunisia. Speakers at the meeting reiterated that the Soviet Union is supporting the Arab people's struggle against Israel's aggression. They also wished the Tunisians and other Arab peoples progress and peace.

Arab students studying in Tashkent were among the participants at the meeting.

TASS COMMENTATOR ON U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD ANGOLA

LD191528 Moscow TASS in English 1500 GMT 19 Mar 82

[By TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- Without the support of the United States the racist Republic of South Africa, that is subjected to ostracism in the whole world, would not have dared start a new large-scale aggression against People's Angola. Encouraging the racists to plunder Washington vents its anger on the People's Republic of Angola for its courageous anti-imperialist policy, for the support given by it to the just cause of Namibia's liberation. Such is the leitmotif of the vast majority of materials in the foreign press commenting on the West's new terrorist action against progressive Africa.

It was virtually on the eve of South Africa's latest intrusion into Angola, undertaken from the territory of Namibia that is unlawfully occupied by the racists, the Reagan administration approved "new regulations" of U.S. trade with the republic of apartheid giving the racists access to arsenals of the most modern Western armaments. A week before that a tour of ten African capitals, including Luanda, was made by one of the leaders of the Wall Street big business David Rockefeller. It was noted by the African press that in all his speeches he tried to whitewash the racist regime of Pretoria, to justify the American-South African cooperation and impose on independent Africa the Western plan of a settlement in Namibia.

The desire to solve the Namibian question in a neocolonialist manner is one of the main factors motivating both the aggressor from Pretoria and its patrons from the United States. On encountering the justified opposition to the American "plan for Namibia", in which the Africans easily discerned the desire of the authors to push to the background the SWAPO patriotic forces so as to preserve the existing system on the Namibian territory, the West now is trying to impose this plan on the "frontline states" by methods of blackmail and military pressure. The present aggression against Angola is a derivative of this policy. At the same time, being encouraged by Washington, Pretoria is stepping up armed provocations against Mozambique, is plotting jointly with the CIA against Zimbabwe and threatening (obviously using American terminology) to strike a blow at any independent country to the south of Sahara should "a threat to the vital interests of the Republic of South Africa" develop there.

To pursue its bandit policy the Republic of South Africa is turning Namibia into an outpost for the organization of acts of terrorism against independent Africa. It is on its territory that detachments of foreign mercenaries are formed and trained. Pretoria and Washington regard these detachments as their main shock force. Dozens of military bases and airfields built on Namibian territory are being used in launching punitive operations. The Namibian part of the Kalahari Desert is being turned into a nuclear testing range of the racists.

It is absolutely clear, therefore, that the immediate withdrawal of the occupation forces of the racists from the territory of Namibia is an imperative condition of ensuring peace and security in Africa. Any neocolonialist solution of that country's future allowing for the presence of South African troops on Namibian soil will result in a situation in which the Republic of South Africa will continue using Namibia for aggression and subversive actions against neighbouring independent states and first of all against people's Angola.

But as it was admitted recently by the Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL, the Americans do not want Pretoria to withdraw from Namibia because they want Pretoria to play the role of the main "instigator of trouble" in that region, of a "policeman guarding American interests" in the south of Africa and an "executioner of progressive regimes".

This policy of the United States clearly shows that to encourage terrorism and violence has become a component part of Washington's policy in respect of the progressive forces of the African Continent.

MOSCOW PAPER SEES U.S. FANNING CHAD CONFLICT

LD121407 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 2 Mar 82 p 3

[Vladimir Korochantsev commentary: "Who Is Inflaming the Conflict in Chad"]

[Text] The present acute exacerbation of the military-political situation in the Republic of Chad is the result of the imperialist policy of destabilization which Washington is pursuing within the framework of its "new" African strategy. In Chad the United States is clearly playing out its Congolese scenario of reprisals committed by CIA agents against P. Lumumba's government. The target chosen is Chad's Transitional Government of National Unity, which is opposed to the grouping of former Defense Minister H. Habre.

Recently the United States, certain Western states and Israel hastily reformed routed detachments of splittists and unleashed them against the Chadian Government from Sudanese territory. An active propaganda campaign was launched in parallel in support of anti-government elements, and the number of U.S. instructors training rebels increased considerably. Furthermore, Western news agencies report, U.S. servicemen are participating in fighting on their side.

As during the tragic events in the Congo, the United States is relying on its African henchmen to fan the military conflict. The Chad problem is viewed on the Potomac as a way of undermining the OAU and independent Africa's anti-imperialist solidarity. Washington is persistently striving to transform Chadian territory into a military bridgehead and establish its own undivided control over the natural resources of the country and the region as a whole. The unseemly U.S. role in the Chadian conflict, as well as the interference in the affairs of other independent countries of the continent and the encouragement to racist South Africa's aggressive ambitions, indicate that Washington is gambling on creating an unstable situation in Africa in favor of U.S. imperialism's interests.

ZIMBABWE TRIAL OF COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES

LD091544 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Salisbury, 9 Mar, TASS -- A group of counterrevolutionaries from the white community and agents of the racist Republic of South Africa whose trial now started in the city of Bulawayo is accused of plotting against the Zimbabwe government.

The state prosecutor said at the trial that the government has at its disposal irrefutable proofs of direct involvement of the Republic of South Africa in subversive activity against Zimbabwe. Two plotters -- Stephen Bertrand and Alan Cauvin are officials of the special services of the racist regime. The ringleader of the exposed gang Francis Bertrand in the last years before the proclamation of Zimbabwe's independence was one of the leaders of the openly pro-fascist organization, the Rhodesian Action Party, closely linked with the Smith regime.

Large amounts of explosives, grenade launchers, mines and different firearms were taken from the plotters when they were being arrested. According to the data of the prosecution, South Africa agents jointly with subversive elements within the country worked out a sinister plan codenamed "Operation Assegai."

It envisaged raids on military garrisons, acts of sabotage at the most important economic projects of the republic, putting out of operation the main transport routes. It was planned, specifically, to blow up a bridge linking Zimbabwe with neighbouring Zambia in the area of Victoria Falls. These actions were designed to create the atmosphere of chaos and instability.

At the same time, the plotters were staking on stirring up national strife, were setting some peoples against others, supporting underground separatist groupings. Enemies of the independent Zimbabwe tried to undermine territorial integrity, to split the country. With this aim in view, Francis Bertrand knocked together the so-called United People's Association of Matabeleland.

Moscow RPP Comment

LD222304 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Africa 1800 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Excerpt] A group of counterrevolutionary plotters are now being tried in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. They are accused of hatching plots and conducting terrorist and sabotage acts aimed at grabbing power and splitting the Republic of Zimbabwe. As can be gathered from residents, the plotters intended to attack military garrisons to capture and destroy strategically important points in the country. Facts that have come to light during the trial indicate that just as before, the undermining activities against the independent republic were masterminded in Pretoria. It is not accidental that the leaders of the sabotage and undermining group turned out to be two former South African military servicemen who were carrying out the task assigned by the secret agencies of the South African Republic. All the arms taken during the operation when the antigovernment group was captured -- [word indistinct] mines, handgrenades and large quantities of explosives -- were made in South Africa.

The capture of the counterrevolutionary group in Zimbabwe indicates that the Pretoria regime is continuing its efforts to try destabilizing the frontline states, and in particular, Zimbabwe. The South African intelligence agency is constantly forming new antigovernment groups in Zimbabwe and Zambia, and is supporting the so-called national resistance movement in Mozambique as well as the splitting and terrorist UNITA anti-Angolan movement. Consequently, there is evidence of a large-scale plan to destabilize the situation in the frontline states. This plan pursues far-reaching aims -- that of intimidating the frontline states and forcing them to abandon their support for the national liberation struggle of the patriotic forces of Namibia and South Africa. However, as facts clearly show, the aggressive and undermining actions of the Pretoria regime and that of its henchmen are meeting with staunch counteraction.

'DAY OF SOLIDARITY' WITH ZIMBABWE MARKED

LD172204 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Excerpts] March 17 is Zimbabwe Day. For many years progressive people everywhere had marked it as an international day of solidarity with the fighting people of Zimbabwe and in 1980, as a result of long and difficult struggles, Zimbabwe won its independence at last. Now a comment from Aleksey Nikolayev of our staff:

As a result of heroic struggles the patriots of Zimbabwe wrested political power from the colonialists and their stooges. The country is now ruled by the government of African majority pursuing a policy of economic and social reforms and nationalization. The government has taken control of banks and major enterprises, mines, and the export of chrome, copper, coal, tin and other minerals. The monopolies' activities have been heavily restricted. As Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said recently: Political power in the hands of majority is nothing without control over the economy.

Economic reform provides for additional means to make working people better off. Over the 2 years of independence, a considerable part of farmland has been handed over to peasants and cooperative farms have been set up. The guaranteed minimum wage and various benefits for poor families have been introduced. Medical service has been made free. The government has frozen the prices of consumer goods to improve the position of the poor. Primary education has become free and consequently acceptable for all.

Zimbabwe has been strengthening cooperation with other independent nations in Southern Africa in an attempt to counter the diktat of racist South Africa through common efforts. By resolutely rejecting imperialist and racist pressure, Zimbabwe, as has been stressed repeatedly in government statements, has been carrying reforms in the interests of working people.

OUSTED ZAPU LEADERS ARRESTED IN ZIMBABWE

LD140030 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 12 Mar 82

[Text] The Zimbabwe Government has arrested three activists of the ZAPU Patriotic Front. A government spokesman announced on Thursday, 11 March, in Salisbury that those arrested include the deputy commander of the army, Lt Gen Lookout Masuku. They are charged with hiding arms. The ZAPU Patriotic Front denies these charges. Last month Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe dismissed from the government a group from this organization led by Joshua Nkomo. African states say the rift between these two government parties in Zimbabwe is due to the insidious hand of the South African racists who are trying to cause chaos in that country.

TASS REPORTS ON MAPUTO FRONTLINE SUMMIT

LD081402 Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Maputo, 8 Mar, TASS -- A conference of the leaders of the "Frontline" states -- Tanzania, Zambia, Angola, Botswana Mozambique and Zimbabwe -- with the participation of the leaders of the South-West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) and the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa, which closed here Sunday, adopted a communique pointing out the mounting aggressiveness of imperialist forces which finds manifestation in subversive actions by racist-ruled South Africa.

Invasions and aggressions, use of bandit units and agents, acts of sabotage and economic subversion, and propaganda campaigns show that the racist regime is waging an undeclared war against independent African states. These actions are directed at undermining the plans of economic development of the "frontline" states, delaying by any means the granting of independence to Namibia and suppressing the national liberation movement in the Republic of South Africa.

The meeting's participants denounced the armed actions by the racists against the People's Republic of Angola. The occupation of Angola's southern regions and Pretoria's support for the puppets from the anti-Angolan UNITA grouping are aimed at creating a precedent for permanent interference in the domestic affairs of any state in the southern African region, the conferees declared.

The conference took a decision to coordinate defensive actions in the conditions of the present situation brought about by South Africa's provocative actions so as to compel Pretoria to stop armed sorties and economic subversion against sovereign countries and withdraw occupation troops from Angola.

The leaders of the "frontline" states noted with satisfaction that in response to Pretoria's punitive operations the Namibian people, guided by SWAPO, are intensifying their national liberation struggle, whereas in South Africa itself, the masses led by the ANC are mounting the strike movement and armed actions against the apartheid regime.

The meeting decided to expand material and diplomatic support for SWAPO and the ANC with a view to intensifying the armed struggle for national independence by the peoples of Namibia and South Africa.

The conferees demanded implementation of Resolution 435 of the U.N. Security Council, first of all acceleration of the pull-out of the occupation troops in Namibia and holding of free and fair elections directed at achieving the country's genuine independence. They denounced the Western powers which support the apartheid regime by selling it weapons, granting financial and economic aid and providing it with modern technology, including in the nuclear field.

Nikonov Commentary

PM171021 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 4

[Correspondent S. Nikonov "International Commentary": "Antiracist Front Strengthens"]

[Text] Luanda — A meeting of heads of state and government of the six "frontline" states — Angola, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe — has taken place in the Mozambique capital Maputo. Also taking part were Sam Nujoma, president of the Southwest African People's Organization (SWAPO), and Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa.

The leaders of the "Frontline" states discussed the explosive situation in the south of the continent, which results from the illegal occupation of Namibia's territory by the South African military and the unceasing provocations by the racist Pretoria regime against Africa's independent countries.

These actions by South Africa, the final communique of the Maputo conference stresses, are aimed at thwarting plans for the economic development of the continent's states and delaying the granting of independence to Namibia at any price. They are also aimed at neutralizing the national liberation movement in South Africa itself.

The conference participants expressed concern at the continuing occupation of Angolan border provinces by the Pretoria military and condemned Pretoria's inflammatory support for the anti-Angolan organization the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], which commits bandit acts against Angola's legitimate government.

The leaders of the "frontline" states resolutely supported the Namibian people's national liberation struggle, under SWAPO's leadership, for freedom and independence. They adopted important decisions on strengthening coordination of joint actions to rebuff the aggression by the racist Pretoria regime against developing states in the region and extending material and diplomatic support for SWAPO and the ANC.

In particular, they demanded the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435 in order to speed up the withdrawal of Pretoria's occupying troops and ensure the holding of free and fair elections aimed at attaining real independence for Namibia. The Maputo meeting condemned the support which Western powers give to the apartheid regime, selling weapons to South Africa and granting it financial and economic privileges, as well as supplying modern technology, including in the sphere of nuclear research.

The participants in the Maputo meeting condemned the new tactics for subversive actions by South Africa, which take the form of financing and training armed gangs which are used to destabilize independent countries in southern Africa.

Pretoria's occupation of certain regions in southern Angola and its desire to allocate these territories to a puppet grouping of UNITA counterrevolutionaries were rightly assessed in Maputo as a South African attempt to create an international precedent which the racists could use widely in future in subversive activity against other "frontline" states.

The Maputo meeting of heads of states and government of the six "frontline" states, observers in African capitals stress, helped to strengthen solidarity with the struggling peoples of South Africa and Namibia, which is an important step in rallying all forces opposed to the racist Pretoria regime.

U.S. 'RAPPROCHEMENT' WITH S. AFRICA CRITICIZED

LD101010 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2320 GMT 9 Mar 82

["USA -- Patrons of Racists" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Mar (TASS) -- The course of President Reagan toward a "constructive rapprochement" with the apartheid regime has led to a significant strengthening of links between the United States and South Africa, writes Igor Tarutin in PRAVDA, commenting on the decision by Washington to lift the ban on sales of so-called "nonmilitary goods" to the South African army and police.

Abandoning the empty rhetoric of their predecessors on "human rights," the new White House bosses have openly stated full support for South Africa, notes the commentary.

In their plans for struggle with progressive changes in Africa, the United States gives South Africa a role as the strike force of imperialism and as an arm for interfering in the domestic affairs of young African states. Therefore, it suits the United States for the racist regime to possess considerable military might. Previously the White House simply closed its eyes to the militarist preparations of Pretoria. Now it is going over to a more active role by clearing a path to its arsenals for the racists.

The patronage of Washington is urging on the extremism of South Africa. Its behavior is becoming increasingly defiant, says the commentary. Provocations by the racists against neighboring African countries have become more frequent. South African troops still continue to occupy vast areas of the southern provinces of Angola. Terror in Namibia has worsened. There has been a harshening in the system of race segregation in South Africa itself where at present the tide of mass repressions is high.

In these conditions a loosening of the embargo looks like U.S. approval for this course. The UN General Assembly declared 1982 "a year of international mobilization in support of sanctions against South Africa." The United States prefers to act in a diametrically opposite direction. Thus Washington is challenging world public opinion and taking upon itself responsibility for the oppression of the South African people and for the racists plundering of the independent states of Africa.

USSR, NIGER HEADS OF STATE EXCHANGE CABLES

PM150855 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 82 p 2

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] L.I. Brezhnev and Col S. Kountche, president of the Supreme Military Council of the Republic of Niger and head of state, have exchanged congratulatory telegrams on the 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and the Republic of Niger.

MEXICO'S FOREIGN RELATIONS SECRETARY VISITS CUBA

PY222159 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 0000 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] Mexican Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda has arrived in Havana. He went on this trip at the request of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo. Castaneda will discuss the results of his talks with U.S. Secretary of State Haig first with the Cuban officials and then with those of Nicaragua. During his recent visit to New York, Castaneda discussed with Haig the Mexican president's proposal for a settlement of the conflict in Central America and the Caribbean.

Meeting with Castro, Others

LD222238 Moscow TASS in English 1649 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] Havana, 22 Mar, TASS -- First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Chairman of the State Council and Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba Fidel Castro received Mexico's Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda, now staying here.

It is reported that Jorge Castaneda informed the Cuban leader of the results of his talks with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig in the framework of the initiative of Mexico's President Jose Lopez Portillo aimed at the settlement of the situation in Central America and the Caribbean through talks among all parties concerned. Fidel Castro confirmed Cuba's well-known stand on problems of the region and Cuba's support for Jose Lopez Portillo's constructive proposals.

Taking part in the meeting were also member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Deputy Chairman of the State Council and of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba Carlos Rodriguez, Cuba's Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca.

Pledge of Support

PY230157 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 2300 GMT 22 Mar 82

[From the "Latin American Events" feature]

[Text] Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban State Council, received Mexican Foreign Relations Minister Jorge Castaneda. Castaneda briefed Fidel Castro on the result of his talks with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, held within the framework of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo's initiative. The Cuban chief of state thanked the Mexican foreign minister for his information and reiterated the well-known Cuban position regarding the problems which affect the region. He also ratified the Cuban support for the constructive stance of President Lopez Portillo.

Castaneda Departs

PY222254 Moscow in Portuguese to Brazil 2200 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] Cuba supports the Mexican proposal regarding the normalization of the Central American and Caribbean situation, it is said in a communique released in Havana on the result of the visit paid to Cuba by Mexican Foreign Minister Jose Castaneda. Last Monday [as heard], he left Cuba for Nicaragua. One month ago Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo exhorted the United States to desist from its policy of threats and blackmail against Cuba and Nicaragua, and initiate a constructive dialogue with those countries on a basis of equal rights. He also advocated the political normalization of the situation in El Salvador.

SURINAME SITUATION CONTINUES TO NORMALIZE

PM221521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 82 p 5

[TASS Report: "Situation Normalizing"]

[Text] Georgetown, 15 Mar -- According to reports from Suriname, the situation continues to normalize in the country since the attempted rightwing military coup was put down.

Army subunits supported by helicopters and naval cutters are combing the jungle in the western part of the country where one of the main organizers of the putsch, Lt S. Rambocus, is assumed to be hiding with a small group of supporters.

Political commentators note that the plot was organized by people renowned for their right-wing views and ties with bourgeois emigre circles. It is also noted that the recent progressive transformations in Suriname -- the creation late last year of a revolution front bringing together leftwing political parties, public and youth organizations and soldiers and also the resignation of Chin A Sen's petit bourgeois government -- were a source of irritation for rightwing circles in the United States and the Netherlands.

NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR TO USSR INTERVIEWED

PM220935 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 13 Mar 82 p 3

[V. Nizskiy interview with Jacinto Suarez Espinoza, Nicaraguan ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR: "We Know How To Value Peace"; date not specified]

[Text] "Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's comments at the dinner in honor of Finnish President M. Koivisto on Caribbean and Central American problems are an inspiration. They concern the Nicaraguan Government's peace proposals and some of the ideas expressed by Mexican President Lopez Portillo at a time of acute crisis which our region is experiencing and reflect the responsible and principled policy pursued by the Soviet Union. They inspire Nicaraguans all the more because they show that our position is duly appreciated in the world if it is supported by such a lofty and prestigious figure as Comrade Brezhnev...."

Thus Comrade Jacinto Suarez Espinoza, Nicaragua's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, began the talk with your correspondent whom he received in his office. Holding fresh sheets of paper containing foreign news agency reports, he continued:

"Under conditions when the whole world is anxiously following events in Central America, it could at least be expected that the U.S. President would react to the Nicaraguan and Mexican peace initiatives. However, the United States has not only remained deaf to these initiatives but has also intensified its bellicose policy in the region, and, specifically, with regard to Nicaragua. It ignores our people's right to self-determination and threatens intervention."

[Question] Comrade ambassador, in putting forward proposals for settling the situation in Central America, the Nicaraguan Government confirmed, in particular, its readiness to maintain friendly relations with the United States. What was Washington's reaction?

[Answer] The United States ignored our proposals, but it will have to take account of reality.

[Question] How do Nicaraguans react to Washington's warlike brandishing of the "big stick?"

[Answer] We are holding out an olive branch. We have always done so. But this is by no means evidence of our weakness. We are capable of defending our revolution with the same determination with which we overthrew the dictator Somoza. The United States must realize that the Nicaraguan revolution is irreversible since it was engendered by the Nicaraguan people's sovereign will....

TASS CITES EL SALVADOR FRONT'S STATEMENT

LD211140 Moscow TASS in English 1109 GMT 21 Mar 82

[Text] Managua, 21 Mar TASS -- The main command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in El Salvador has issued a statement pointing to the danger of U.S. armed intervention in Central America, which grows with every passing day.

More obvious becomes the failure of the attempts of the fascist junta, which rules in El Salvador with U.S. support, to suppress the Salvadoran people's struggle for freedom and democracy, the statement stresses. The Reagan administration realizes that neither the farce of the so-called "elections" ventured by it, nor a reactionary military coup d'etat will be able to keep in power the dictatorship which is to the liking of Washington. In these conditions the American Government pursues the course of stepped up preparation for an armed aggression against our people.

The Reagan administration, the document stresses, has already struck collusion with some regimes of South America on participation of their troops in intrusion into El Salvador planned for the next few months.

The United States, the statement stresses, plans to convene a conference of the Organization of American States to make that organization agree to formation of the so-called "interamerican force" to invade El Salvador. Washington intends to draw to that force troops of Chile, Paraguay, Honduras and some other states and thus hide its role as the main organizer of a disgraceful aggression.

The leadership of the National Liberation Front expresses confidence that among the members of the Organization of American States there will be governments which will not support a new conspiracy of Washington and fascist dictatorships against Central American peoples.

The successes achieved by the Salvadoran people in the struggle against the reactionary regime, the document stresses, are the result of their own efforts and heroism. Statements made by the American Government on "interference" into El Salvador of some other states are nothing but gross lies aimed at justifying the planned aggression.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, the statement stresses in conclusion, urges all the governments, the peoples and the peace-loving forces of the world to undertake the most resolute steps to stay the hand of the aggressors and thwart the criminal plans of imperialism and its flunkies.

PERUVIAN CP CONDEMNS U.S. POLICY IN C. AMERICA

LD150946 Moscow TASS in English 1027 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Lima, 15 Mar, TASS -- The plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Peruvian Communist Party, held here on March 13 and 14, condemned Washington's aggressive policy in Central America and the Caribbean and its unceasing threats of an armed intervention in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Cuba. The meeting voiced solidarity with the peoples of Latin America fighting for their freedom and independence and against machinations by American imperialism.

The plenary meeting approved a report delivered by Jorge del Prado, general secretary of the party's Central Committee, who analyzed the principal political events which took place in the country after the eighth extraordinary congress of the PCP and spoke of the tasks confronting the party. The plenary meeting discussed the party's activities under present conditions and approved its general working programme for the next six months.

BRIEFS

TRACTORS TO MEXICO -- Mexico City, 17 Mar, TASS -- Signed here has been a contract between the Soviet Foreign-Trade Organization Traktoroexport and the Mexican National Company Siderurjika Nacional (Sidena) for delivery from the USSR to Mexico of a big consignment of wheeled tractors "T-25." In accordance with the contract, 1,800 "T-25" tractors will be sold in the course of the current year. Besides, another 425 Soviet tractors are planned to be sold in the first quarter of 1983. Soviet tractors showed well in field operations in Mexico. Cooperation between Traktoroexport and Sidena has been under way for almost 10 years. Cooperation is conducted on a regular basis and has a stable upward tendency. Soviet tractors are in broad demand among the Mexican owners of small farms owing to their high performance, their broad use in various agricultural operations and relatively low cost as compared with tractors from other countries which sell agricultural implements to Mexico. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1350 GMT 17 Mar 82 LD]

TASHKENT REPORTS BREZHNEV'S ARRIVAL IN UZBEK SSR

GF221752 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, arrived in Tashkent, the capital of the Uzbek SSR, today. Leonid Brezhnev was welcomed at Tashkent airport by Sharaf Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee; Inamdzhani Usmankhodzhaev, chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium; and Narmakhonmadi Khydayberdiyev, chairman of the Uzbek Council of Ministers Presidium. The high-ranking guest was also welcomed at Tashkent airport by the following leaders of representatives from Soviet Central Asian republics and the Kazakh SSR: Dinmukhamed Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee; Turdakun Usubaliyev, first secretary of the Kirgiz Communist Party Central Committee; Dzhabar Rasulov, first secretary of the Tadzhik Communist Party Central Committee; Mukhamednazar Gapurov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee; and other representatives of the thousands of inhabitants of the Uzbek capital. The welcomers warmly congratulated Leonid Brezhnev. The noble guest was welcomed with traditional [words indistinct]. Children presented (?bouquets) to the leaders.

Arriving with Leonid Brezhnev were Andrey Aleksandrov-Agentov, Politburo and Secretariat aide; Leonid Zamyatin, chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department; and other officials. Leonid Brezhnev was warmly hailed by a million people from Tashkent crowding the corners and squares. Leonid Brezhnev will take part in the jubilant ceremonies in the Uzbek SSR in connection with the presentation of the Order of Lenin. Our republic has been awarded the Order of Lenin for its great success in increasing cultivation of cotton and other agricultural products.

PRESS MATERIALS ON TRADE UNION CONGRESS

International Delegations

PM221121 Moscow TRUD in Russian 16 Mar 82 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Arrival of Foreign Delegates for the 17th USSR Trade Union Congress"]

[Text] On 14-15 March the following delegations arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the AUCCTU for the 17th USSR Trade Union Congress: Delegations of the WFTU, the ILO, the International Social Security Association, UNESCO, the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions, the Central Council of Bulgarian Trade Unions, the All-Hungarian Council of Trade Unions, the Federation of Trade Unions of Vietnam, the Central Board of the Free German Trade Union Federation (GDR), the Trade Union Center of the Working People of Cuba, the Polish National Commission for Cooperation Among Branch Trade Unions, the Central Council of the General Union of Romanian Trade Unions, the Central Council of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement of Czechoslovakia and the Council of the Confederation of Trade Unions of Yugoslavia and trade union delegations from Austria, Algeria, Angola, Bolivia, Brazil, Burundi, Britain, Upper Volta, Haiti, Guyana, Guatemala, Honduras, Denmark, Dominica, Zambia, Iraq, Iran, Iceland, Spain, Italy, Kampuchea, Colombia, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libya, Luxembourg, Mauritania, Mali, Malta, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Puerto Rico, Paraguay, Portugal, Cape Verde Republic, San Marino, Senegal, St Lucia, Syria, Sierre Leone, Uganda, Uruguay, Finland, French Guinea, the FRG, Chile, Sweden, Scotland, Ecuador, Jamaica and Japan.

The delegations were greeted by V.I. Prokhorov, deputy chairman of the AUCCTU; A.P. Biryukova, A.V. Viktorov, I.I. Gladkiy, L.I. Zemlyannikova, K.Yu. Matskyavichyus, V.P. Provotorov, A.M. Subbotin and A.P. Ushakov, AUCCTU secretaries; AUCCTU executives; and workers of trade union central committees and councils.

French Delegate's Speech

PM221149 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 19 Mar 82 p 3

[Jean George dispatch: "Grass Roots Opinion at Trade Union Congress"]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 18 March -- The 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions will end Saturday. The impression created by the speeches made by the delegates who have come directly from the enterprises will not be confirmed or otherwise until the end of the congress. They are voicing demands while reviewing achievements. Some representatives of the top trade union leaderships are going along with them.

Michel Warcholak, a member of the Confederal Bureau, greeted the congress on the CGT's [General Labor Confederation] behalf. In particular he stated:

"We are following the socialist countries' various activities and experiments and, particularly, the efforts being made in your country to give greater responsibility to the trade unions for them to use their rights fully with great interest....

"Various situations show that where people lose sight of these essential requirements it has serious consequences that are harmful for those concerned and for the whole movement of revolutionary forces."

The prospects proposed to the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions, Warcholak noted, "are not, in our view, merely a critical examination but a fundamental and constructive vision. The development of the ideas of socialism, the diversification of the means of attaining it and originality in the methods of building it characterize the present period."

He then quickly described the action being taken in France by the CGT, "as an independent trade union, which does not mean neutral on a class basis." The CGT representative stressed the importance of Franco-Soviet cooperation for the two countries' interests and for peace and the great importance of the initiatives announced to the congress.

"The CGT," he then stated, "intends to continue to strengthen the role and prestige of the WFTU....The vote that was taken at the Havana congress is a trade union answer to the problems of defending the workers' interests."

PRAVDA Editorial

PM221131 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 82 p 1

[Editorial: "The Party's Reliable Helpers"]

[Text] The Soviet trade unions approached their 17th congress fully armed with experience and knowledge and rallied closely around the CPSU and its Leninist Central Committee. The attention of the highest trade union forum is focused on the means and tasks of further improving the activity of our country's largest public organization in the light of the 26th party congress decisions.

The trade unions congress is a major event in our country's political life. The broadest strata of the working people are represented here. The heroic working class, the glorious kolkhoz peasantry and the people's intelligentsia have sent more than 5,000 worthy representatives to the congress. They are distinguished by unshakable loyalty to the party and people, an acute sense of responsibility and selfless devotion to the common cause. People of various professions, generations and nationalities, they have brought their own rich experience, ideas and concrete proposals to the congress.

This congress is taking place at a remarkable time. The party and all the Soviet people, in approaching the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation, are seeking to mark this glorious jubilee with new achievements in implementing the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

This ensures that the discussion of the immediate tasks for the trade unions is even more businesslike and searching. These tasks are profoundly and comprehensively revealed in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's brilliant, pithy speech at the trade unions congress.

"The trade unions," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said, "hold an important place in the political system of socialist society. They are a powerful means of developing democracy and involving the working people in the building of communism. That is how the question was phrased at the 26th party congress. I wish to note with satisfaction that Soviet trade unions play a great and, to put it frankly, irreplaceable role in the resolution of the multifaceted tasks set by our turbulent, dynamic times. That is how it should be."

The further we advance and the greater the scale of our creative work, the more the trade unions' significance as a school of administration, a school of economic management and a school of communism will grow. Concern for increasing social production will be linked increasingly firmly in their practice with concern for the working and living conditions of every working person, for protecting his rights and improving his well-being. In view of this the party invariably follows a course of increasing the trade unions' role in the conditions of mature socialism, so that in accordance with their broad rights they can act more persistently, purposefully and effectively.

In implementing the 5-year plan's socioeconomic tasks the trade unions must make better use of such forms of increasing the working people's creative activeness as workers' meetings and permanent production conferences, counterplans and the innovators' movement. Socialist competition is a powerful lever of economic growth. By augmenting its glorious traditions the trade unions help to create an atmosphere of creative quest for reserves, comradely mutual assistance and responsibility for the destiny of plans and pledges in every collective. Experience indicates that the greatest success is achieved where the competitors' energy is focused on the main salients -- on increasing labor productivity and social production efficiency, improving product quality and making better use of fixed capital. It is particularly important to do everything to introduce the experience of leading collectives and production innovators and new forms of team organization and labor incentives.

Concern for economic development is inextricably linked with concern for improving the working people's life. An attentive attitude toward the working person and his day-to-day needs and implacability toward all kinds of deviations from legal norms and labor legislation and toward manifestations of bureaucracy and indifference enhance the trade unions' prestige and strengthen their ties with the masses.

The trade unions have a varied arsenal of means by which they can influence social and economic development and people's education. The task is to use this arsenal with still greater effectiveness and to more rapidly and energetically improve trade union organization's work in relation to the demands of the day. Soviet trade unions must further develop the masses' sociopolitical activeness and tirelessly inculcate loyalty to the party's cause and communist ideals, Soviet patriotism and internationalism and a readiness to defend the motherland in working people by improving the style and methods of their activity.

The guarantee of the effectiveness of any initiatives by a primary organization or trade union group lies in party leadership. Thanks to this leadership the necessary conditions are created for their successful work. The key questions here today are a thrifty attitude toward public property, the all-round strengthening of state and labor discipline, the enhancement of organization and a businesslike approach and the improvement of worker control.

The Soviet trade unions make a great contribution to the cause of strengthening peace and friendship between peoples. They bear the banner of proletarian internationalism aloft, develop and deepen fraternal ties with working people on all continents and do much to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the international trade union movement.

A broad response was aroused by the new proposals formulated in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the trade union congress on questions of curbing the arms race and averting the threat of a new world war. They indicate that our party and the Soviet Government are conscientiously fulfilling the people's mandate and doing everything possible to justify the hopes of our country's working people and of all mankind for lasting peace and a clear sky over the planet.

The party values highly the trade unions' multifaceted, fruitful activity and regards them as an influential force in Soviet society and its own reliable prop among the masses.

TRUD Editorial

PM221531 Moscow TRUD in Russian 14 Mar 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Influential Force of Our Society"]

[Text] The 17th USSR Trade Unions Congress will begin work in Moscow in 2 days' time. Representatives of the multimillion-strong army of Soviet trade unions will assemble in the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses to discuss the results of the activity of the biggest organization of working people and to determine a specific program for its work in fulfilling the impressive plans outlined by the 26th CPSU Congress.

At the dawn of Soviet power Vladimir Ilich Lenin wrote that the trade unions were becoming the main creator of the new society because only the multimillion-strong masses could be the creators of this society. The Soviet trade unions now unite over 130 million working people in their ranks. Virtually the entire adult population of the country employed in socially useful labor now belongs to trade unions. The trade unions unite the working people of all our country's nations and ethnic groups.

Our trade unions celebrate their 75th anniversary this year. Throughout this time they have struggled together with the party and under the party's leadership for the working people's interests and the flourishing of our motherland. Enshrined in the USSR Constitution, the Soviet trade unions' rights and opportunities are extraordinarily extensive. They are concerned with the defense of the working people's interests, take part in resolving economic, social and cultural tasks and do a great deal to involve the working people in the management of production.

In the 5 years since the 16th USSR Trade Unions Congress, trade union organizations have made a substantial contribution to the improvement of socialist production efficiency, the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the Soviet person's communist education.

In response to the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee resolution "On all-Union Socialist Competition for the Successful Fulfillment and Overfulfillment of the 11th 5-Year Plan Targets," the trade unions have widely launched a movement under the watchword "Working Effectively and in a High-Quality Manner!" Taking part in socialist competition for a fitting greeting to the 17th Trade Unions Congress, many leading workers and labor collectives have adopted and successfully fulfilled lofty socialist pledges in honor of this notable event.

Trade union organizations are now successfully developing competition under the slogan "60 Shock Work Weeks for the 60th Anniversary of the USSR" and are disseminating the initiative of the leading workers of Moscow enterprises and delegates to the 17th Trade Unions Congress who have urged all the country's working people to mark this anniversary by achieving high labor productivity at every workplace.

At the same time trade union organizations still have to do a great deal to improve the effectiveness of competition, especially competition between associated enterprises, and to increase their responsibility for the fulfillment of mutual pledges.

The CPSU Central Committee November (1981) plenum stressed that the central problem of the entire 5-year plan on both the economic and the political planes is the fulfillment of the food program. Many sectors of the national economy are taking part in the development of the agroindustrial complex. The trade unions of these sectors must seek the maximum return on the funds invested. More concern must be displayed for the development of auxiliary farms and the private plots of kolkhoz members, workers and employees.

Everyone knows that the economy's effectiveness is largely determined by how fully and rationally material resources are utilized. In the period under review the trade unions have done a great deal to mobilize the working people to expend raw and semifinished materials and electricity thriftily and economically. During the 10th 5-Year Plan millions of proposals from working people were acted on during the all-union survey of the effectiveness of the utilization of raw and semifinished materials and fuel and energy resources, with a saving of R18.5 billion.

However, there are still many instances of thriftlessness and a wasteful attitude toward the people's property. The slogan advanced by the party, "The Economy Must Be Economical," must be made the basis for the daily work of all trade union organization everywhere.

Taking part in the implementation of the social program outlined by the party, trade union organizations are actively and persistently seeking to satisfy the Soviet person's diverse material and cultural needs and primarily to improve working people's working, daily existence and leisure conditions. As a result of the implementation of 5-year comprehensive plans for the improvement of conditions, labor safety and sanitation and health measures, unskilled, heavy, manual and monotonous operations have been eliminated at many enterprises.

In the period under review social insurance was further developed and social insurance payments and pensions from the social consumption funds were increased substantially. These achievements are the result of our society's tireless concern for the working man and his family and are particularly impressive by comparison with the capitalist countries, where expenditure on social needs is constantly being cut back.

The trade unions have done quite a lot to improve Soviet people's housing conditions and trade and consumer services for the population, to organize public catering and to improve cultural and education work.

However, our trade unions sometimes still lack initiative in using their extensive rights, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted in the report at the 26th CPSU Congress. They are not always persistent on questions of fulfilling collective contracts and labor safety and still react only feebly to instances of violation of labor legislation, bureaucratism and red tape. Some trade union committees and councils lack efficiency in their work or the desire to achieve the unconditional fulfillment of the decisions that they make or to achieve specific practical results. These shortcomings must be persistently overcome and we must persistently struggle for unity of word and deed and assert a truly Leninist style of work.

Through the party's concerns the most favorable conditions have been created for the trade unions' fruitful and varied activity. Party leadership is the source of the trade unions' strength and the guarantee of their successful work. The Soviet trade unions will continue to be the party's reliable bulwark among the masses and a powerful means of developing democracy and involving the working people in building communism.

ACTIVITIES OF ROMANOV, GRISHIN REPORTED

PM221159 [Editorial Report] Moscow and Leningrad local newspapers in Russian carry reports on CPSU Central Committee Politburo members Viktor Grishin and Grigoriy Romanov activities in the first half of March 1982 as follows:

Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA on 5 March publishes on its front page a 2,000-word LENTASS report entitled "Build Economically, Durably and Quickly" on a 4 March session of the Leningradskaya Oblast Soviet, which discussed the oblast's work in "improving efficiency and quality of rural capital construction." The report notes that "G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningradskiy Obkom," participated in the session's work.

LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA of 5 March carries on its front page a 1,000-word LENTASS report entitled "Presentation of High Awards" on the presentation of "high awards to a group of Leningraders by G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and first secretary of the Leningradskiy Obkom," at the Smolnyy Institute on 4 March. The report also notes that Romanov "congratulated the award winners warmly and wished them good health, prosperity and further success in labor for the good of the motherland."

LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA on 6 March 1982 publishes on its front page a 500-word LENTASS report entitled "In Honor of the Holiday" on a 5 March meeting at Leningrad's S.M. Kirov opera and ballet theater in honor of the 8 March international women's day celebrations. The report notes that "G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningradskiy Obkom," was in the meeting's presidium.

Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA on 12 March carries on its front page a 1,000-word unattributed report entitled "The Capital Prepares for May Day." The report notes that a session of the party gorkom's commission for preparing for and holding the capital's May Day celebrations was held 11 March "under the chairmanship of V.V. Grishin, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom."

MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA of 13 March publishes on its front page a 1,400-word unattributed report entitled "The City Is Becoming More Beautiful" on a 12 March meeting of the party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol aktiv and representatives of working people's collectives at the Oktyabr Movie Theater that was devoted to the presentation of the Challenge Red Banner of the RSFSR Council of Ministers and the AUCCTU to Moscow. The report notes that V.V. Grishin, "first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, participated in the meeting's work."

MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA on 13 March carries on its front page a 300-word unattributed report entitled "Visit Concluded" on the end of a visit by a Prague CPCZ city committee delegation to Moscow on 12 March. The report notes that "V.V. Grishin, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom," was among officials who saw the delegation off at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport.

'SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY' CONGRESS HELD IN ASHKHABAD

GF230525 Ashkhabad Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] A practical scientific conference on the topic "Socialist Democracy in Reality" started its work at the meeting hall of the Turkmen Supreme Soviet in Ashkhabad on 22 March. It was organized by the Turkmen Supreme Soviet Presidium. Chairmen and secretaries of the Soviet executive committees of the oblasts, rayons and cities, chiefs of the [word indistinct] instructional departments of the Soviet executive committees, responsible workers of the organs of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee, the Turkmen Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Turkmen Council of Ministers, the party obkoms, gorkoms and raykoms, the Turkmen Committee of People's Control and the republic's Komsomol Central Committee; senior officials of the Turkmen [word indistinct] Ministry, the Turkmen Academy of Sciences and higher educational institutions; and workers of mass information media were invited to attend the conference.

The conference was opened by Comrade Yazkuliyeu, chairman of the Turkmen Supreme Soviet Presidium. The conference heard a report entitled "Party Control Over the (?Councils) of People's Deputies Is the Major Objective for Realizing the Ideological Tasks of the Communist Construction," presented by Comrade Gapurov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee.

Comrade Yazkuliyeu, chairman of the Turkmen Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented a report on the "USSR Constitution and Further Development of Socialist Democracy." [Name indistinct], deputy chairman of the Turkmen Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented a report entitled "The Councils of People's Deputies Are the Soul of the Democratic (?Force) of the State Control. Augmenting the Role of the Councils [words indistinct] Socialism." Karryyev, chairman of the Turkmen Council of Ministers, reported on the tasks of the people's deputies in realizing the Turkmen SSR economic and social development plans during the 11th 5-Year Plan period. (Karriyeva), doctor of juridical sciences and chief of the Philosophy and Law Department of the Turkmen Academy of Sciences, reported on the legal basis for developing and strengthening socialist democracy under conditions of [word indistinct] (?events)

The participants of the conference also heard a report entitled "Strengthening of People's Control Is One of the Important Directions of the Political System in Soviet Society and Adds To Developing Socialist Democracy," presented by Makarkin, chairman of the Turkmen Committee of People's control. (Ishankuliyeu), chairman of the Turkmen [words indistinct], reported on role of the progressive collective in solving questions related to the state [word indistinct] life. Anayev, chairman of Maryiyskaya Oblast soviet executive committee, gave a report on democratic principles of the soviets and realization of their (?objectives). (Annov), deputy minister of (?justice), reported on "Democratic [word indistinct] Constitute the Basis of Organization and Activity of the Soviet Government."

The conference is being attended by Annaorazov, [Name indistinct], Mollayeva, Karriyev and [name indistinct] members and candidate members of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee; Nazarova, secretary of the Turkmen Supreme Soviet Presidium; Abramov, Bazarova, [name indistinct] and Orazmukhamedov, deputy chairmen of the Turkmen Council of Ministers; and [words indistinct].

The conference continues its work.

KARAKALPAK ASSR CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

GF201825 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] The 20th of March is the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Karakalpak ASSR, within the framework of the Uzbek SSR. One million people are living in this republic, which is in the northwestern Uzbek SSR. (Alime Vahipova), deputy chairman of the Karakalpak Council of Ministers, told the following to our correspondent on occasion of this glorious anniversary:

The Karakalpak ASSR is making unlimited progress. The success of the October Socialist Revolution in 1917 and the establishment of (?freedom and security) and fraternal relations has been (?greatly) conducive toward [words indistinct] of the Karakalpak people. The people, who did not even have [word indistinct] until the revolution, now have a university and over 20 research institutes. An industrial sector has been set up compatible with contemporary standards by the [words indistinct] of factories. The Karakalpak people are making the 50th anniversary of their republic with great hope for the future -- in fact, with great confidence that the future will be bright.

LITHUANIA'S ANILIONIS VIEWS FREEDOM OF RELIGION

LD221314 Vilnius in Lithuanian to North America 0100 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Commentary by Patras Anilionis, representative of the Lithuanian Council for Religious Affairs -- live or recorded]

[Text] Vatican Radio has reported that the Italian television correspondent Gavronskis, having visited Lithuania, showed movies on Italian television depicting the beautiful churches in Vilnius while, contending that some churches are closed and used for other purposes; like some form of accusation. [sentence as heard]

No campaigns to close down churches have been carried out in Lithuania. On the contrary, about 30 churches destroyed during the war have been restored. Each case of closing down a church has been examined, reasons analyzed and the laws of the cult strictly adhered to. For example, some houses of prayer of various persuasions have been closed down because of an insufficient number of believers. Such cases have been especially characteristic of the town of Vilnius, where before the war a substantial number of inhabitants consisted of people of Polish nationality, including believers, who left for the Polish People's Republic after the war.

Thus we see that the republican government has been concretely solving all problems concerning closure of individual houses of a cult in accordance with the general interests of both the believers and nonbelievers. It is wrong to regard this as a persecution of the church.

There are instances of the closure of churches in the capitalist world, too. On 25 January 1980, the Voice of America cited a report from the newspaper DARBININKAS that stated that on 28 December the last service was celebrated at the church of the Queen of the Angels in Brooklyn and that this Lithuanian parish, which had existed for 92 years, was abolished.

Have Soviet correspondents regarded this event as a persecution of the believers in the United States?

There are at present 22 houses of prayer in Vilnius: 11 Catholic churches, 9 Orthodox and Old Believers' churches and Baptist, Evangelical and Jewish houses of prayer. In a comparatively small town of 500,000 inhabitants such a network of houses of prayer satisfies the believers of various religions, including Catholics. Nobody can deny this.

Correspondent Gavronskis commented in his report on the activity of the Chapel of the Vilnius Ausros Vartai, where the believers could be seen praying and singing religious songs in Lithuanian. Do not these impressions by journalist Gavronskis of the Vilnius churches show that the Soviet Constitution is being observed in Lithuania, the constitution which says that the freedom of conscience, that is, the right to profess any religion or not to profess any, is guaranteed to Soviet Lithuanian citizens?

The correspondent visited Vilnius on a working day, but the believers who had time were freely praying and singing in the churches.

All conditions have been created in our country for religious communities to function normally. The laws even protect believers against encroachments on the rights of religious communities and servants of a cult. These laws provide for responsibility for any interference in the conducting of religious ceremonies when they do not interfere with public order and do not encroach on the rights of other citizens. For example, on 7 December 1981 the people's court in Pakruojis Rayon sentenced citizen Danisevicius to 18 months corrective labor under strict regime for hindering both the believers of the Klovainiai religious community and the servant of the cult in conducting religious ceremonies in the church.

It is no secret that our laws, while protecting and guaranteeing freedom of conscience, at the same time establish certain limits in the work of religious communities. Soviet laws forbid religious organizations and servants of a cult to use their churches for political purposes that are contrary to the interests and laws of Soviet society, because the activity of churches is limited to satisfying the religious needs of believers. This is quite natural because there is no social system in the world that is indifferent to the violation of laws and generally acknowledged regulations under the cover of religion. This is not permitted in socialist society either.

Let us look at what is done in capitalist states when a church is used not in accordance with its purpose.

On 8 September 1981 the Voice of America reported that the Egyptian Government strengthened its control in religious matters by (?occupying) more than 40,000 private mosques. The Ministry for Religious Affairs decreed that only authorized clergymen could deliver sermons and that sermons must not be concerned with political problems. The leader of the Egyptian Coptic church, Pope Shenouda III, whose administrative powers were abolished by President as-Sadat, was banished to a desert monastery roughly half way between Cairo and Alexandria. President as-Sadat, speaking in parliament on 5 September, stated that he would have no mercy to critics of the government who used religion for this purpose.

It is interesting to note that foreign correspondents do not comment on strict measures taken against the church by the leader of this capitalist state.

When describing the Kaunas seminary, correspondent Gavronskis stated that the buildings of the seminary and its church have been restored and that the seminary's students take their walks in the yard. But he also stated that the number of students admitted to the seminary is limited. It seems that this correspondent could not report only positively about the seminary. He had to find something negative to report, which he did. The number of students admitted to the seminary is limited. Let us ask: Which republican or union high or secondary school admits students without any limits?

In November 1981 the 21st issue of the SVYTURYS magazine carried an article by Stanislovas Balciunas stating: This summer there were 625 applications for admission to the Kaunas Medical Institute. However, it was obvious even before the beginning of the examination that not all applicants would be admitted. After entry examinations there remained 53 percent of the applicants. One hundred and fifteen youths and 234 girls were admitted to the institute.

Some people may say that there is a shortage of priests, that there are parishes without clergymen. They must be serviced by the servants of the cult from neighboring parishes. It is not difficult to give an answer to this. In spite of the fact that there are over 13,000 physicians and more than 36,000 other medical workers, some of them are on more than one staff list. Is this normal? There is a shortage of physicians and other medical workers, too, and they are very necessary. The seminary cannot be an exception, and therefore this spiritual institution, like other educational establishments, can admit only a limited number of young people. This is a problem dictated by life.

PRAVDA PUBLISHES OBITUARY OF PERFORMER UTESOV

PM230851 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 82 p 2

[Obituary of L.O. Utesov]

[Excerpts] Soviet art has suffered a severe loss. Outstanding Soviet variety performer and USSR people's artist Leonid Osipovich Utesov has died in his 87th year.

[Signed] L.I. Brezhnev, M.S. Gorbachev, V.V. Grishin, N.A. Tikhonov, K.U. Chernenko, P.N. Demichev, M.S. Solomentsev, I.V. Kapitonov, M.V. Zimyanin, V.N. Makeyev, Ye. M. Tyazhelnikov, V.F. Shauro, R.F. Dementyeva, S.G. Lapin, V.I. Kochesmasov, B.N. Pastukhov, V.F. Promyslov, F.T. Yermash, T.N. Khrennikov, A.M. Roganov, G.V. Aleksandrov, M.I. Blanter, Ye. V. Zaytsev, L.G. Zykina, V.F. Kukhariskiy, K. Ya. Listov, O.L. Lundstrem, M.L. Matusovskiy, Yu. S. Melentyev, L.B. Mirov, M.V. Mironov, A.G. Novikov, A.N. Pakhmutoy, M.V. Pashkov, A.P. Petrov, A.I. Raykin, A.V. Romanov, Yu. V. Silantyev, Z.P. Tumanova, M.I. Tsarev, I.G. Sharoyev, K.I. Shulzhenko, R.K. Shchedrin, A. Ya. Eshpay.

SHCHERBITSKIY SPEAKS ON PARTY LINKS WITH MASSES

WA221740 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Feb 82 p 2

[Article by M. Odinets and A. Chernyak, PRAVDA special correspondents, Kiev: "With People and for People: Party Life -- Leadership Style and Methods"]

[Excerpts] The continuous, organic link that the Leninist party has with the broadest masses of the workers is one of the first and indispensable conditions for its successful activity. Speaking from the rostrum of the 26th CPSU Congress, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stated once again, in the most convincing manner: "In unity with the people lies the party's strength! In unity with the party, in the party's leadership, lies the strength of the nation!"

How are these principles being implemented? That question was discussed by PRAVDA correspondents with V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine.

[Question] Vladimir Vasilyevich, where does one see, first of all, the manifestation of the link the party and its organizations have with the masses? What is being undertaken in the republic to reinforce that link?

[Answer] It is necessary to talk about the principal thing: Everything that the CPSU does, it does for people. The motto of our program, as everyone knows, is "Everything in the Name of Man, for the Good of Man." And the party cannot conceive of its existence without the most solid link with the broad masses of the people. They are the blood vessels which nourish the party with life-giving force and provide inexhaustible energy and practical experience.

The reinforcement and development of the link the CPSU has with the masses are promoted by the party composition itself, by the constant increase in its ranks by drawing on the best representatives of the nation. For example, today, amid the detachment of almost 3 million communists in the Ukraine, more than 1,792,000 are workers and kolkhoz members. On the whole, 75.4 percent of the republic's party organization consists of people who are employed in the material-production sphere.

Obviously, it is important not only to understand the need for the constant analysis of one's work, for an objective evaluation of it. One must always study it. But sometimes one hears a manager discussing the state of affairs in the sector assigned to him, and one is led involuntarily to the conclusion: yes, self-criticism is truly the most difficult type of an amateur performance. It would seem that the comrade is speaking correctly and touching upon all the miscalculations, but when it comes down to discussing his own fault, bravery is lacking. The notorious "objective" reasons are put into action. Thus, the truth in the evaluations is, as it were, replaced by verisimilitude, and even, I'm afraid, by something that sounds practically like justification.

We need not only explanations of the reasons for shortcomings, but also, and primarily, persistent, practical actions, in order to improve the situation and eliminate the shortcomings as quickly as possible. But even better than that is preventing them. At a recent plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine, we discussed sharply the unsatisfactory work being done by a number of coal mines and enterprises in ferrous metallurgy. Without a doubt, there are many difficulties there. But there is also no doubt that the party committees and the managers at various levels must improve the economic work, must guarantee in all sectors the acceleration of scientific-technical progress and the introduction of advanced experience, and must think about the future prospects.

In the 11th 5-Year Plan the republic is confronted by extremely complicated, colossal tasks. One of the especially important ones is the resolution of the food-supplies problem. The key to this problem lies in the intensive development of the agroindustrial complex. The average annual grain production in the republic must reach 51 million tons -- that is, it must increase by 8 million tons as compared with the past five-year plan. We can achieve that goal if we can increase the harvest yield by 3.9 quintals -- that is, raise it to 30 quintals per hectare. That is a noticeable step.

But the weather does not pamper the farmer: every 2 or 3 years, and in a number of oblasts every other year, the grain crops are threatened alternately by droughts and by excessive rain. But we also have farms and entire rayons which, even under these conditions, have been getting steady harvests! I remember well the words of the famous kolkhoz leader, Makar Anisimovich Posmitnyy, which he used to love to repeat: "Stones could even fall out of the sky, but we still have to bring in the grain." That is how every labor collective must work, and how every manager must be responsible for the word he has given.

Among the many indicators of economic activity, there is none like the manager's understanding of the degree of his own responsibility. And, if one thinks carefully about this, it is the chief indicator. It is also the chief one in consolidating the link between the party and the masses. Incidentally, the word that has been given by the Communist manager must be an authoritative one, since, in the eyes of the people, he represents the party.

Let us apply that thought to the real situation. During the current 5-year plan it is planned in the Ukraine to build 80.7 million square meters of housing. When we build it, that will mean that approximately 2.5 million families will have a housewarming party: They will receive new apartments or ones that have been released by people who have moved. But just think about it this way: What if, for even one family, this happy event does not occur on time? Don't you think it will undermine the trust that people have in the plans that have been set down? That is why the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine made strict inquiries of the managers of Nikolayevskaya, Kirovogradskaya and Chernovitskaya oblasts, where the plans for the activation of housing were not fulfilled during the past 5-year plan.

Unfortunately, one still encounters an occasional manager who does not completely sense his own responsibility for the fulfillment of plans, and who does not treasure the word that he has given. People do not want to follow "leaders" like this, and the party organizations bring them to strict accountability.

An initiatory, responsible attitude toward the job, concern for people and for their daily needs -- these constitute the touchstone on which one verifies both the goals and the results of our entire work. And in this regard there are no petty details, because "wherever one is talking about millions of people, about the conditions for their life, labor, and everyday situation," L.I. Brezhnev emphasizes, "that is where the most serious policy begins for communists, and where the main line of their organizing and ideological-political work runs."

We shall attempt to extend everywhere the best experience in personnel work. And we give the appropriate evaluation to those instances when the manager, as the expression goes, "has divorced himself from the masses." Although it happens infrequently, it does indeed happen. Once a new director, I. Spesivtsev, arrived at the Avdeyevskiy coke-chemical plant. Naturally, it was expected that he would roll up his sleeves and begin to resolve the cardinal production tasks and improve people's working and everyday living conditions. Actually, however, he became concerned about the everyday living conditions for himself only. Within a short period of time he built a house -- which, in essence, is a villa -- by misusing his official position. The "link with the people" also was arranged in his own peculiar style: He surrounded himself with yes-men and relatives, illegally assigned apartments to them at the plant's expense...

Spesivtsev was taken off the job and removed from the party. It was a completely logical finale, a just punishment. We apply the strictest measures to workers who have not justified the trust that has been placed in them and who have put their personal interests above state interests. A person who has divorced himself from the masses, who disregards the interests of the workers, cannot be a manager. That is a basic truth that has been confirmed many times by life itself.

And it is necessary to visit more frequently among workers, kolkhoz members, scientists, and cultural workers. We pose the task in this way for the managers at all levels. We mention this at plenums of the Central Committee, and at meetings of the party and economic activists. And we strive persistently to achieve a situation in which the manager's personal communication with the masses is the norm of life.

As for the forms of communication, there are many of them. In our opinion, the single political days are a good thing. They are held, as a rule, not in auditoriums or offices where the audience is assigned a passive role, but, rather, in shops, in laboratories, at animal farms, and at field camps.

The benefit derived from the single political days, if they are prepared well, in a manner that is devoid of formalism, is indisputable. They were begun in individual cities and rayons, and then confirmed on an oblast scale. Now single political days are held on the scale of the entire republic. In the course of the single political days, many questions arise which pertain to the domestic and foreign policy of our party and state, as well as various aspects of the activities of the local party, soviet, and economic agencies, and critical comments are also expressed. The Central Committee, and the oblast, city, and rayon committees of the Communist Party of the Ukraine study them and take the necessary steps on a time-responsive basis.

Something else that is indisputably of benefit and that gives a good charge of energy is the holding of meetings at party committees with representatives of various spheres of economic and cultural life and with advanced workers in production. Recently the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine held businesslike meetings and discussions with party and war veterans, managers of a number of labor collectives, secretaries of party organizations in various branches of the national economy, youth advisers, warriors from student construction detachments, propagandists, literary and artistic figures, and journalists.

It has become a system that the party workers and the managers of ministries and departments, when visiting the outlying locations, participate in the work of the plenums of the party committees and the party, trade-union, and workers meetings, and speak to the workers, kolkhoz members, and students. For every manager this daily communication becomes a verification of the effectiveness of his work and provides the opportunity to look into the mirror of people's fame. But if the manager himself does not visit the plants, animal farms, construction sites, night shifts, dormitories, or dining halls -- in a word, "in the thick of life" -- if he does not have a personal interest in the state of affairs locally, you cannot expect him to be intelligently informed. We are taking decisive steps to rid ourselves of persons who adhere to this unfit style and who manifest complacency, self-conceit and arrogance.

[Question] An effective means of reinforcing the link between the party and the masses, as was mentioned at the 26th CPSU Congress, is publicity about the work of the party organizations, the improvement of the manner in which the workers are informed. But people write to PRAVDA that this situation has not always been set up properly. A decision is made, but the Communists and the workers do not always know about how it is being fulfilled. It happens that the manager is taken off the job, but people do not know why. And so all kinds of rumors start flying around the collective and there is all kinds of gossip...

[Answer] And a mountain is made out of a molehill. That does happen. Or, for example, a Communist manager is punished at the rayon party committee, but the primary party organization is not informed about the decision. We are decisively combatting this practice. Sometimes, unfortunately, it happens that people are better informed about the situation around the world and events throughout the country -- everyone listens to the radio and watches television -- than about what is happening in their own settlement, rayon or city.

It is important to keep an account of every business proposal, to take into consideration in one's work every fresh idea. Obviously, it is also necessary to analyze every complaint and to check out every critical message that comes in. One must learn how to look at a letter not only from the viewpoint of the person who wrote it -- was he satisfied with the answer? It is also necessary to look at the letter from the point of view of the party agency: What beneficial ideas have been practically extracted or can be extracted? This approach to workers' letters yields its results. In particular, many recommendations and businesslike advice were taken into consideration by us when developing the organizational-political measures of the Central Committee for carrying out the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Ukraine.

An attentive, businesslike approach to workers' letters should be established everywhere. The Central Committee has studied how this work is being done in all the republic's ministries and departments, in the party agencies and the state institutions. We are eliminating the shortcomings that have been revealed.

Guided by the principles of the CPSU Central Committee and the requirements stated in the USSR Constitution, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine and the republic's party committees are showing constant concern for improving the activities of the mass organizations of the workers and are supporting their initiative, thus contributing to a situation in which they perform their work in a purposeful and effective manner. At the present time the soviets are working more actively and persistently to resolve the questions of economic and social development and are effectively monitoring the comprehensive development of their rayons, the building of housing, schools, hospitals and children's institutions, and the production of consumer goods.

Today, when the tasks of our economic and cultural construction are becoming more complicated and the ideological struggle on the international scene is becoming aggravated, there has been an even greater increase in the importance of the multifaceted activities of the broadest organizations of the workers -- the trade unions. Life, the entire practice of building a new society, has completely confirmed the correctness of the Leninist theory concerning the role of the trade unions as a powerful means for developing socialist democracy, and for involving the workers in the administration of the state. The organizing of the competition, the educating of people, concern for the improvement of their working and everyday living conditions, the reinforcement of discipline -- all these things are exceptionally important jobs in which the trade unions engage every day.

Summing up what has been stated, it should be emphasized that truly thousands of reliable threads link the party with the masses. By their persistent daily work the party committees reinforce these ties. And an example is provided to us by the combative Leninist headquarters of our party -- the Central Committee of the CPSU and its Politburo, headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev. In the indestructible unity of the party and the nation lies the source of the strength of the CPSU and the guarantee that all the party's plans will be implemented.

AFP REPORTS DISSIDENT ORLOV'S LIFE 'IN DANGER'

NC231143 Paris AFP in English 1132 GMT 23 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 23 Mar (AFP) -- Jailed Soviet dissident Yuri Orlov is in extremely bad health and his life is in danger, his wife Irina Orlova said today in a letter addressed to Western correspondents here.

She said Professor Orlov, who founded the Moscow group to monitor the Helsinki Accords, was suffering from tuberculosis.

"He is running a high temperature and has begun to spit blood," Mrs. Orlova wrote, adding that he had been thrown into solitary confinement despite his illness.

"The cold, the hunger and the lack of medical care have been conclusive in destroying his health," she said, calling for her husband's immediate hospitalisation.

Prof. Orlov was sentenced in May, 1978, to seven years in a prison camp to be followed by five years of house arrest. He is serving his sentence at the Perm prison camp, in the Western Soviet Ural region.

He has reportedly been sentenced to six months in solitary confinement five times since he began serving his sentence.

PRAVDA SURVEYS JAN-FEB ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

PM191439 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 82 p 1

[Unattributed "Diary of All-Union Competition": "Increasing the Return on Labor"]

[Text] The results of work by the country's industry in the last 2 months have been summed up. Labor collectives, greeting the anniversary of the 26th party congress in February, sought to commemorate it with high labor productivity and efficient use of raw materials, other materials and electricity. The ahead-of-schedule commissioning of a rotor complex yielding 4,500 tons of coal an hour was ensured by that date by miners at the Ekibastuz Bogatyr pit. The Erdekli gasfield which has been developed in Turkmenistan was switched into the main gas pipeline from central Asia to the center of the country. In Chelyabinskaya Oblast a rural housebuilding combine has been commissioned, which will provide 42,000 square meters of housing annually for erection on kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

In all, the country's industry fulfilled the January-February plan for the volume of output sales by 100.4 percent. All the union republics and most industrial ministries coped successfully with targets. The 2-month plans for the extraction of gas and gas condensate and the production of diesel fuel, chemical plant protection agents, tractors, passenger cars, motor vehicles and certain consumer goods were overfulfilled.

Many collectives were able to overcome the laggardness permitted to occur in January, but some sectors failed to cope with the 2-month plan. Among those failing to fulfill the output sales target were the Ministries of Ferrous Metallurgy, Production of Mineral Fertilizers, Chemical Industry and Medical Industry. Among the sectors where targets are set in terms of normative net output, associations and enterprises of the Ministry of Construction, Road and Municipal Machine Building and the Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry are lagging behind. The January-February plan for the production of pig iron, steel and rolled ferrous metals was not fulfilled. There was a significant shortfall in the production of cement, chemical fibers and yarns, sawn lumber, paper and cardboard. The machine builders were behind with certain types of output.

Cases where the volumes and schedules for contract deliveries are not fulfilled are particularly intolerable. Such reproaches are most often applied to a number of associations and enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, the Ministry of Electrical Equipment Industry and the USSR Ministry of Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood Processing Industry. Now, as the first quarter draws to a close, it is necessary to mobilize forces in order to make up for lost time and ensure steady work by allied sectors.

An example of a high sense of responsibility for the implementation of plans and socialist pledges is set by the winners of the all-union socialist competition on 1981's results. Their experience must become the property of all competitors. Work to improve product quality should be actively continued. According to the USSR State Committee for Standards, by February of this year 80,940 types of output had been placed in the top quality category. However, at the same time the number of complaints about poor articles is falling only slowly and considerable quantities of shoddy goods are to be found on the store counters. It is important for party, trade union and Komsomol organizations to strive to ensure that the honor of the enterprise's brand name is a moral guide for every worker, engineer or employee in his work.

The end of February was marked by the Muscovites' patriotic initiative on holding an all-union communist subbotnik on 17 April. Warmly supporting this initiative, labor collectives are fully determined to achieve the greatest possible productivity on that day and to work on the basis of resources they have saved. Preparations for the labor festival make it incumbent on people to seek production reserves widely and make maximum use of them.

The country's farmers are living and working by the spring calendar. The borders of field work are spreading rapidly. Sowing is underway on farms in the Kuban, Stavropolskiy Kray, Turkmenia and southern Kazakhstan. As soon as they came out into the fields, the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Bukharskaya Oblast and other oblasts of Uzbekistan launched a competition for the maximum return on every hectare. Their experience is described on the second page [PRAVDA carries a full-page "Diary of All-Union Competition" feature on page 2]. The time for toil will soon come in other regions too, and they must be fully ready to meet it. Farms in Donetskaya Oblast's Novoazovskiy Rayon and Rostovskaya Oblast's Neklinovskiy Rayon have completed mutual checks. Joint deputies' posts, which monitored the repair of machines, gave the assessment "excellent." An important item in the joint pledges in honor of the USSR's 60th anniversary has been fulfilled. The collaboration contract between these rayons makes provision for the exchange of experience and its introduction into practice.

The priority task now is to complete the repair of machinery more rapidly. An example is set by the initiators of the all-union competition — collectives of farms and enterprises of the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture [Goskomselkhoztekhnika] in Lithuania, Latvia, Tataria and Namanganskaya and Khersonskaya Oblasts, where nearly all machines and implements have been reliably restored. But this is not yet the case everywhere, and the rate of preparation of machinery is now somewhat lower than last year. Thus by 1 March, 88 out of every 100 tractors on the country's farms had been repaired, including 76 K-700 tractors; and also 95 out of every 100 seeders, 96 cultivators and 80 trucks. These figures are all one less than by the same date last year. In a number of republics individual types of machines are being repaired more slowly than usual. For instance, in Kazakhstan more than 10,000 Kirovets tractors have not yet been repaired. Here, and also in the Ukraine, Belorussia and Moldavia, thousands of wheeled tractors have not yet been provided with tires.

The rate of completion of the preparation of machinery is being delayed not least because certain enterprises of the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building are failing to cope with the plan for delivering spare parts to the countryside. Many reproaches were aroused by the Kharkov tractor engines plant's failure to fulfill schedules for dispatching components. According to the Goskomselkhoztekhnika, the Rubtsovsk tractor spares plant refused altogether to deliver components for T-74 and DT-75 tractors to all clients in March and April. The editorial office is being alerted to breakdowns in shipments of urgent freight through the fault of the railroad workers. Thus in February the Belorussian railroad failed to supply 126 freight cars to the "Bobruyskfermmash" association for mineral fertilizer spreaders and more than 400 freight cars to the "Gomselmash." The transport workers are now called upon to give the "green light" to all urgent freight for the sowing.

Spring has added to the stockmen's concerns too: They must complete the wintering of livestock in a well-organized way, ensure the highest possible productivity from the stock and increase the sale of products to the state. The best results are now being achieved by stockmen in Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan, where livestock, poultry and meat purchases are up from last year. By the beginning of March, 9 percent more milk had been purchased in Belorussia than by the same date last year. At the same time there has been a marked fall in the production of marketable output from dairy units on farms in a number of oblasts of the RSFSR and the Ukraine, Moldavia, Latvia and other republics, and livestock and poultry purchases have fallen in Kirgizia, Kazakhstan and Armenia.

The country's agricultural workers have taken their places in the front line of the struggle for the harvest in the second year of the 5-year plan. Socialist competition for a fitting greeting for the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation is flaring up with new force in the spring fields. Party, soviet and economic organs should do everything to ensure that farm collectives prepare and carry out the range of field work in an exemplary fashion and lay firm foundations for the fulfillment of plans and pledges.

ECONOMICAL OIL USE, OIL INDUSTRY ASSESSED

PM220939 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 2

[Article by Dr of Technical Sciences Ye. Rodchenko under the rubric "The Economy Must Be Economical": "Making Economical Use of Oil"]

[Text] There is no sector which does not use oil or products made from it. Automobile gasolines, aviation, diesel and boiler and stove fuels, and lubricating oils and lubricants are used particularly widely.

Both abroad and in the USSR various ways of meeting the increasing demand for motor fuels are being looked at: converting bituminous sands, obtaining liquid hydrocarbons from natural gas and coal, using synthetic methanol or ethanol and so on. But using these products as motor fuels means having to modify engine designs and also the technological processes which would enable them to be produced at economically acceptable prices have not yet been developed. Using oil to obtain liquid motor fuels and the liquid hydrocarbons needed to produce chemical products is economically the most justified and technically the most sound for the decades immediately ahead.

The pattern of consumption of oil and oil products in our national economy is such that 2.3 tons of oil are now refined in order to produce 1 ton of motor fuel. The residues are used as fuel at thermal power stations and in boiler rooms. Modern deep [gluboki] oil refining techniques make it possible to obtain 1 ton of motor fuels from no more than 1.3 tons of feedstock.

Our industry has introduced many technical processes enabling oil to be deeply refined. High-powered catalytic cracking units are particularly widely used and units for refining oil under hydrogen pressure are in operation and more are being built.

In addition to increasing the capacity of individual units and items of equipment, combining various processes is a prerequisite for making technical progress in bulk oil refining. This makes it possible to reduce the amount of energy consumed in refining, the size of the site [zastroyka] and the number of operating staff. Such installations, including units both for the primary processing and for the catalytic and thermal processing of residual fractions, were built back in the sixties by the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry at plants in Siberia and the Ukraine. These units proved to be highly reliable in operation and new high-power combined units are being built.

The construction of a high-power combined unit for refining fuel oil is nearing completion at one oil refinery. New catalysts have been developed and are in production in Novokuybyshevsk, Ufa, Baku and Omsk.

But in recent years the proportion of the total volume of oil refined using deep refining processes has been decreasing rather than increasing. Fuel oil production is increasing and it is being used more widely as a boiler fuel at power stations and other stationary units. This is evidence that products like oil are not being used rationally in the national economy.

In order to solve the problem of satisfying the national economy's demand for motor fuels, less fuel oil must also be burned at power stations and in other stationary units which must be converted to coal or natural gas wherever possible.

The USSR Gosplan and the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology together with the ministries concerned would do well to elaborate a targeted comprehensive program for resolving this task. Without this it is impossible to release fuel oil from the fuel balance and to channel it into deep refining.

The creation of highly productive equipment is a condition for the successful commissioning of capacities for deepening oil refining. Much machinery of this type has been developed by scientific research and planning institutes of the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry together with institutes of the Ministry of Machine Building for the Petrochemical Industry. However, some types of equipment fall considerably short of modern requirements and are notable for high metal-intensiveness, inadequate productivity and high energy consumption.

At the same time there is a need for continued scientific research and design studies aimed at improving already developed processes for in-depth oil refining and creating new processes which make possible the fuller utilization of oil for obtaining vehicle fuels and raw materials for the chemical industry.

The problem of the efficient processing of heavy oil residues -- tars -- has still not been resolved throughout the world. The high asphaltene, vanadium, nickel and coke content of tars makes it impossible to use catalytic processes for this purpose owing to the rapid breakdown of the catalysts. Nor are there any processes for preparing tars for catalytic treatment.

Techniques for preparing and refining tars have been established in our country, but they have still to be tested under industrial conditions. Meanwhile, obtaining marketable products from tars is an important stage in the in-depth refining of oil. It is necessary to accelerate the creation of pilot plants for refining tar, to assimilate and develop new tar processes and to adopt measures for their broad-scale introduction.

Nor can the absence of targets for the creation of new avenues and processes for deepening oil refining in the plans of sector and USSR Academy of Sciences institutes be considered normal. To date, no USSR Academy of Sciences institute has worked on these problems on a wide scale. The enlistment of highly-skilled cadres from academy institutes would considerably expand the scale of work being done and would raise it to a new standard. Thought should be given to establishing a special coordinating council under the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology to coordinate all efforts on deepening the refining of oil.

OIL FIND IN YAKUTIYA PERMAFROST REPORTED

LD181408 Moscow TASS in English 1341 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- The first USSR north-east oil gushed upwards from a borehole drilled through the permafrost layer at the depth of 1,900 metres in the Boturba area of Yakutiya, writes an information. [as received]

Geologists have long since been predicting "black gold" deposits in the depths of Yakutiya's permafrost and had even established probable sites. However, reaching to oil proved a difficult task due to the district's most complex geographical structure, which fails to conform to ordinary patterns.

FOOD MINISTRY CRITICIZED FOR 'BREAKING PROMISES'

PM091415 [Editorial Report] Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian on 20 February carries on page 2 a 900-word report entitled "But the Ministry Only Makes Promises..." by correspondent V. Shulgin. The report criticizes the RSFSR Ministry of the Food Industry for breaking a promise made in February 1978 by the then RSFSR minister of the food industry to make capital investment funds available for the construction of accommodation badly needed by the staff of the Yarensk distillery in Korovskaya Oblast.

KOZLOV ON FRUIT, VEGETABLE SUPPLIES

LD221026 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Studio interview with Fruit and Vegetable Farming Minister Nikolay Semenovich Kozlov by Yu. A. Letunov -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Letunov] The Fruit and Vegetable Farming Ministry was set up in December 1980. Nikolay Timofeyevich Kozlov was appointed minister.

Nikolay Timofeyevich, I have a large bundle of letters with me. You know about them, as do your comrades. I would like to obtain some answers from you. Among these letters there are some angry ones. Here, for instance, is a letter from Comrade (Vorobyev) who fought in the Great Patriotic War, and who lives in Novosibirsk: Quite frankly, it's just shameful to have to write that 8 kg of potatoes at market costs R6.

[Kozlov] I dare say that Comrade Vorobyev is quite correct. I would like to stress that letters of this kind arrive from large towns as a rule, and our ministry must tackle especially the problem of supplying large towns with fruit and vegetables. [Passage omitted on provision of supplies to Moscow]

[Letunov] What about Siberia?

[Kozlov] I would like to dwell a little on the work of the Omichka association. Party and administrative bodies there devote much of their attention to the production of fruit and vegetables and to the supply to working people. They have set up a good association which includes a hothouse combine, three sovkhoses, fruit and vegetable depots and specialized shops. It must be said that all the problems with the crops that can be grown in Omskaya Oblast have been resolved: A certain proportion of output is even sent, at our request of course, to other regions of our country.

Unfortunately, things are far from being like that everywhere. In this connection, I would like to say something about the work of Gorkovskaya Oblast fruit and vegetable association. Conditions there are far better than in Omskaya Oblast. Two major rivers flow through the region, the Oka and the Volga, there is splendid soil in the floodlands there, and there was much sunshine last year. If the crops were tended and irrigated properly, a large quantity of vegetables might be obtained and the town of Gorkiy and the oblast's industrial centers could unquestionably be provided with fruit and vegetables. But, to our regret, it hasn't happened that way. If I may, I would like to ask you to show this statistically in the form of a comparison with the Omichka association. They are roughly comparable in size.

[Unidentified voice] The area of vegetables exceeds 3,000 hectares whereas in Omsk it is less. But the crop in Omsk is almost twice as large. The plan was overfulfilled. In the Gorkovskaya Oblast association, on the other hand, the plan was only fulfilled by 48 percent.

[Kozlov] It's a pity, isn't it, that just one Moscovskaya Oblast sovkhos -- the Bolshevik, for instance -- produces much more cabbage than the whole of Gorkovskaya Oblast, which last year handed over a mere 20,000 tons of cabbage?

[Letunov] We receive letters not only from Gorkiy saying that there is a shortage of fruit and vegetables: There are shortages of vegetables in other Volga towns, too. Take Astrakhanskaya Oblast, for instance. This is the market garden of the whole of Russia. Here is a letter from (Petr Ivanovich Shirin) from the settlement of Liman: onions are to be purchased only at the market and only at high prices. There are other letters on the same subject as well.

[Kozlov] Well, we recently heard about Astrakhanskaya Oblast at a collegium meeting. Ten new sovkhoses are currently being built there, together with a comprehensive array of necessary facilities: Tracts of improved land, residential settlements, depots for the storage of fruit and vegetables, and mechanized quays to enable fruit and vegetables to be loaded rapidly on barges or ships for transportation.

So we have to give the Astrakhan association plenty of help to rationalize properly this market garden of Russia, as you called it, and we expect a lot from this area.

But it must also be noted today that the opportunities which exist in Astrakhan are far from being uniformly utilized. There are farms which grow a decent crop and which fulfilled their pledges to the state even during last year's difficult season. At the same time several farms only half fulfilled the plan, although the conditions were roughly equal.

[Letunov] I would now like to refer to some more letters. Many viewers raise the issue of the way in which the kolkhoz markets operate. As you will realize, these letters concern the regulation of prices and the availability of produce. There are comments on this from Comrade (Macherin) from Moscow, Comrade (Bron) from Baku, and others. I would describe these letters as very anxious: They say that prices really are very high. Well, I realize that establishing due order at the markets is the job of several ministries. What is the role of your ministry?

[Kozlov] The role of our ministry would probably be to have our own shops at the markets, or next to the markets, and to supply them with good produce, selling it at state prices, of course. Thus we would immediately start to experience falling market prices. We will be working toward this. As far as the resale of produce is concerned, unfortunately this sort of thing does still go on, and the job of combatting abnormal phenomena of this kind belongs not merely to our ministry, but also to the public and to the bodies dealing with the protection of public order.

[Letunov] Yes, but unfortunately, reading these letters, you can see that the militia bodies and the public are somehow bashful on this question and allow speculators and resale dealers to feel free and easy and to make themselves at home at the markets.

[Kozlov] The main thing we must do is to increase production and to supply the shops with high-quality goods, so that people will not have to go to the markets, and the channels for buying up this produce for resale will be closed.

MEDUNOV VIEWS KUBAN FARMING PROSPECTS

PM220951 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 82 p 1

[PRAVDA correspondent K. Aksenov "Reportage with Commentary": "The Kuban Starts Sowing"]

[Excerpt] Krasnodar, 11 Mar -- S.F. Medunov, first secretary of Krasnodarskiy Kraykom, comments:

As we all know, last summer was a difficult one for our farmers. The long heatwave and dry winds reduced the harvests of the region's main crop -- winter wheat. And yet farms still sold plenty of grain to the state and laid in a stock of good seed.

Much has been done to guarantee high yields this year. Just take the increased fertility of plowland. The Kuban's chernozem is certainly rich, but it would be a mistake to think that it could yield an abundant harvest without much work and without the use of progressive experience and the achievements of science. Grainfields need constant attention. Farms in the region have introduced progressive agrotechnics, crop cultivation technology and crop rotations and established scientifically sound sowing schedules.

In recent years farmers have been trying to apply as much local fertilizer as possible to the soil. In the last 6 years it has had more than 150 million tons of organic fertilizer.

The area sown to wheat after row crops -- which in our view are the best pioneer crops -- has expanded considerably. The structure of the winter crop growing area has also changed: 36 percent of it is now sown with new, intensive varieties of wheat -- Krasnodarskaya-57 and Prikubanskaya -- and of barley -- Tsiklon, Meteor and Novator -- which yield three or four more quintals of grain per hectare.

It is worth pointing out that this year grain producers are determined to solve the problem of "patchy" harvests. They have decided to bolster laggard farms with knowledgeable experts. They have given them assistance in bringing mechanized links up to strength, providing them with sets of equipment and allocating them more fertilizer and herbicides. In short, we are trying to bring laggard and "average" farms up to the same level as the leading farms. There is great scope for increasing output here.

Financially autonomous mechanized links with a stake in achieving high end results are now the lords of the soil. More than 3,000 such links have been created. They are currently preparing a firm foundation for the harvest. Irrigation channels are being cleared, repairs are being carried out on water resource structures and the drainage system, and rice paddies are being improved. Since the fall the whole area sown to spring crops has been plowed and stocks of high-grade seed have been laid in. Agronomists and link leaders have drawn up fieldwork plans in which particular attention is paid to sowing times.

This year's 20,000 machine operators who learned their trade at general compulsory education establishments will take the wheel of their tractors. Communists in temporary party groups will be helping these young grain producers to gain confidence and experience and to settle into collectives.

Party committees and Soviet and economic organs have done a lot to introduce industrial technology into agriculture. This is yielding big dividends. Last year, for example, a link headed by Mikhail Loyev of the Labinskiy sovkhos grew corn without using any manual labor and averaged a yield of more than 76 quintals of grain per hectare.

Experts have calculated that the use of new technology in corn growing increases yields by more than 22 quintals per hectare. The same method of crop cultivation considerably increases sunflower, soybean and vegetable yields and appreciably reduces labor costs and prime output cost.

This year more than 4,000 people -- farm, department, team and link leaders -- have studied the work experience of leading collectives using industrial production techniques. Experts from agriculture administrations, kolkhozes and sovkhoses, and selkhoztekhnika and selkhozkhimiya associations attended a course of lectures on the subject.

This year some 400,000 hectares of corn, sunflower and other crops will be cultivated using new technology. Mechanized links have everything they need. They have been allocated full sets of equipment and the full quota of fertilizer and herbicides. The spread of new technology is being held up by a shortage of high-powered tractors, specialized equipment and herbicides.

Party and trade unions are devoting particular attention to the organization of socialist competition. I would like to single out the most interesting forms of such competition. All farms, for example, are taking part in the high farming skills movement. The terms of the competition have been worked out and there are regular results roundups.

The workers of the Kuban have pledged to sell to the state in the second year of the 5-year plan 4,250,000 tons of grain, six million tons of sugar beet, 710,000 tons of vegetables, 280,000 tons of grapes, and a large quantity of other produce. Ensuring that spring sowing is well-organized, introducing new techniques, and increasing the effectiveness of competition will help the region's farmers to make a major contribution to the country's food stocks.

SCIENTISTS CITED ON LUNAR ROCK ANALYSIS

PM221119 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 3

[G. Alova "Reportage From the Laboratory" under the "World of Science" rubric: "Aluminum on the Moon"]

[Text] The USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Mineral Deposits, Petrography, Mineralogy and Geochemistry has a section called "The Lunar Group." I expected to encounter something very interesting there. And that is what happened.

First of all I saw lunar rock -- not even sand, more like dust. Junior scientific assistant N. Ashikhmina was bending over it, looking through a binocular microscope.

This woman's work is extraordinarily precise and requires colossal patience. Nadezhda Alekseyevna has a great deal of that, plus unremitting concentration. So not a single particle of interest because of its shape, color, brilliance or some other feature eludes her gaze. The particles singled out by Ashikhmina go to research workers who determine the chemical composition and structural features of each one.

What have the petrographers and mineralogists learned from studying the particles of lunar dust? Scientists invited me to look at a few of the Soviet researcher's achievements -- particles which have been described in detail. Each is kept in a glass tube. Sealed in one is a microscopic particle of aluminum; incidentally, in the United States specialists studying lunar topsoil have discovered no aluminum particles. A particle of brass shone yellow in another tube. The most interesting thing was in a third tube. It was graphite. On seeing the black speck the thought occurred to me that, to the three tubes I had seen, a fourth containing a sealed diamond might be added.

That's what we are hoping for," Doctor of Geological and Mineralogical Sciences O. Bogatikov, the leader of the lunar topsoil section, said.

"Concentration and precision -- that's our watchword. We have surpassed our American colleagues in the detailed mineralogical study of the natural topsoil of our planet's satellite."

GEOLOGISTS DENY BORISLAV OILFIELDS WORKED OUT

LD192026 Moscow TASS in English 2008 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Lvov, 19 Mar, TASS -- Soviet geologists have refuted the opinion that oil fields in Borislav (western Ukraine) have been worked out during more than 100 years of exploitation. The first commercial inflow of oil was obtained already from the third well, drilled there to a depth of 5,000 metres.

Geological exploration made it possible to establish the existence of three oil seams, one under another, at a depth of up to 6,000 metres. The development of the first seam began at the end of the last century. More perfect oil equipment made possible the extraction from a depth of 1,500-1,700 metres. The third, deep seam also possesses commercial oil reserves. The output of the well drilled to a depth of 5,000 metres remains high -- 250 tons a day -- for the sixth year already.

Apart from Borislav, oil and gas are extracted in two other regions of the Soviet Carpathian area -- Dolina and Nadvornaya, which belong to the same geological zone. Scientists are sure that deep oil and gas-bearing seams which stretch for hundreds of kilometres exist in the spurs of the Carpathian Mountains.

They do not exclude the possibility of the existence of the fourth producing horizon. Super-deep prospecting holes are being drilled for this purpose.

1.6 million tons of oil are extracted annually in the Soviet Carpathian area. The development of these oil fields is very promising from the economic and social point of view, since they have skilled personnel and modern equipment.

AIR FORCE GENERAL N.P. KAMANIN'S OBITUARY

PM191139 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Mar 82 p 4

[Excerpts] Col Gen Aviation (Retd) Nikolay Petrovich Kamanin, distinguished aviation chief of the USSR Armed Forces and illustrious Soviet pilot, has died suddenly.

N.P. Kamanin was born in 1908 in the city of Melenki in present-day Vladimirskaya Oblast into a worker's family.

(Signed) V.V. Grishin, D.F. Ustinov, L.V. Smirnov, N.V. Ogorkov, V.G. Kulikov, A.A. Yepishev, S.L. Sokolov, N.I. Savinkin, V.F. Tolubko, V.I. Petrov, A.I. Koldunov, P.S. Kutakhov, S.G. Gorshkov, K.S. Moskalenko, S.K. Kurkotkin, A.T. Altunin, V.M. Shabanov, N.F. Shestopalov, I.N. Shkadov, L.L. Batekhin, A.N. Yefimov, G.P. Skorikov, V.V. Reshetnikov, S.V. Golubev, M.N. Mishuk, V.Z. Skubilin, V.S. Loginov, A.N. Volkov, V.A. Shatalov, G.T. Beregovoy, V.V. Nikolayeva-Tereshkova, P.I. Klimuk, A.G. Nikolayev, A.A. Leonov, G.S. Titov, P.R. Popovich, V.V. Gorbato, V.F. Bykovskiy, B.V. Volynov, A.V. Lyapidevskiy, L.I. Goreglyad.

MOSKALENKO WATCHES TANK UNIT EXERCISE

AU101412 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Mar 82 p 1

[Lt Col L. Golovnev report under rubric "In the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District": "Commander's Example"]

[Text] This time the condition for the performance of the exercise were particularly difficult for the tankmen: Drizzle and fog in the hollows concealed the distance, hampered observation of the battlefield and prevented the correction of fire. Moreover, there were a considerable number of young servicemen in the company commanded by Guards Sr Lt A. Rudnyy.

The company commander decided that now was the time to inspire his subordinates by his personal example and to demonstrate that it was possible even in such a situation to accurately hit snap and moving targets. The officer's shots from gun and machinegun were accurate. The rating of five that he obtained in the control firing proved to be a good beginning. His subordinates followed his example.

The tankmen's operations were watched by Marshal of the Soviet Union K. Moskalenko, USSR deputy defense minister. He presented officer A. Rudnyy with a valuable gift.

DANISH PAPER NOTES SOVIET SUBS' RADIATION LEAKS

NC181703 Paris AFP in English 1651 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Copenhagen, 18 Mar (AFP) — Several Soviet nuclear submarines were damaged by radio-active leaks with their crews suffering from radiation effects, it was reported here today.

The Danish tabloid EKSTRABLADET said today that the damaged Soviet subs were anchored in Lithuanian and Estonian ports while hospitals in the cities of Riga (Latvia) and Klaipeda (Lithuania) were overflowing with radiated sailors from the vessels.

The paper said in a dispatch datelined from Stockholm that Soviet Baltic-states emigres based in the Swedish capital had been told the sailors "were dying like flies".

A Danish military intelligence spokesman here refused to deny or comment on the reports.

EKSTRABLADET said reports on the radio-active accidents were circulated by Baltic states inhabitants despite efforts by the Soviet authorities to stifle the information.

PRAVDA NOTES RECENT BOOKS MILITARY LEADERS

PM161323 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 82 p 2

[Unattributed article under rubric "Published": "On Guard Over Peace" -- passages in all capitals printed in boldface type]

[Text] D.F. USTINOV. WE SERVE THE MOTHERLAND, THE CAUSE OF COMMUNISM [Sluzhim Rodine, Delu Kommunizma] MOSCOW, MILITARY LITERATURE PUBLISHING HOUSE, 1982, 128 PAGES. (IMPLEMENT THE DECISIONS OF THE 26TH CPSU CONGRESS) [Resheniya 26th Syezda KPSS -- V Zhizni] [title of series]. The book by Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, recounts how the USSR Armed Forces are living and working under the beneficial influence of the 26th CPSU Congress' ideas. Soviet servicemen are vigilantly standing guard over the people's peaceful, creative labor and by their efforts in combat and political training are repeatedly corroborating the high assessment given of the armed forces in the CPSU Central Committee report to the 26th party congress. The book shows the objective need for and nationwide character of the defense of the socialist fatherland and the main ways of further strengthening army and navy combat readiness under conditions of the acute worsening of the present international situation through the fault of U.S. and NATO bellicose circles. One section of the book is devoted to the party's leadership of the armed forces -- the ultimate basis of Soviet military building.

N.V. OGARKOV. EVER READY TO DEFEND THE FATHERLAND [Vsegda v Gotovnosti k Zashchite Otechestva] MOSCOW, MILITARY LITERATURE PUBLISHING HOUSE, 1982, 71 PAGES. (IMPLEMENT THE DECISIONS OF THE 26TH CPSU CONGRESS). On the basis of a Marxist-Leninist teaching and the 26th CPSU Congress' conclusions, Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov's book analyzes the military-political situation in the world and demonstrates the increasing aggressiveness of imperialism and the sources and causes of the intensification of the war danger. There is an examination of Soviet military doctrine and its fundamental differences from the capitalist states' military doctrines. There is an exposition of the objective need to further strengthen the Soviet state's defense might, the main avenues of building the USSR Armed Forces, ways of increasing their combat readiness to swiftly rebuff any aggressor and some topical problems of the Soviet military art's development.

A.A. YEPISHEV. LOYAL TO THE PARTY'S IDEAS [Ideyam Partii Verno]. MOSCOW, MILITARY LITERATURE PUBLISHING HOUSE, 1981, 96 PAGES. (IMPLEMENT THE DECISIONS OF THE 26TH CPSU CONGRESS). Army General A.A. Yepishev describes the 26th CPSU Congress' historic significance and reveals the tasks and methods of ideological, political and education work in the army and navy in the light of the country's demands on further raising the USSR Armed Forces' combat readiness. The chapter "Proven Vanguard of the Soviet People" describes the CPSU, which has traveled an illustrious path of heroic achievements and is the people's genuine revolutionary vanguard and their leading and directing force.

V.G. KULIKOV. THE COLLECTIVE DEFENSE OF SOCIALISM [Kollektivnaya Zashchita Sotsializma]. MOSCOW, MILITARY LITERATURE PUBLISHING HOUSE, 1982, 96 PAGES. (IMPLEMENT THE DECISIONS OF THE 26TH CPSU CONGRESS). Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov's book sets out the main provisions of the 26th CPSU Congress documents relating to the socialist countries' cooperation in the sphere of the strengthening their defense capability; it describes the Warsaw Pact organization's activity to ensure the reliable defense of peace and socialist gains; it analyzes the international situation, which conditions the need for a further consolidation of the unity of the socialist communist countries.

CONFERENCE OF MILITARY JOURNALISTS HELD

PM151225 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Mar 82 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Military Journalists' Conference"]

[Text] A conference of central military press workers and of editors of district, group and fleet newspapers who took part in the work of the Fifth USSR Journalists' Union Congress has been held at the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

It discussed experience of the propagandizing by military publications of questions connected with further improving the standard of ideological-political, military, moral and legal education in the light of the requirements of the 26th CPSU Congress. The conference was addressed by Col A. Koval, chief editor of the journal ZNAMENOSETS, Col G. Gubanov, executive editor of the newspaper NA BOYEVOM POSTU (Moscow Air Defense District) and by Cols O. Nazarov and N. Velikanov.

The conference noted that the editorial collectives are giving extensive coverage to theoretical and methodological problems of the personnel's education in the spirit of the requirements of Soviet military discipline and demonstrating the complex of political, ideological and organizational measures for the servicemen's communist education.

At the same time, the conference stressed, the newspapers and journals do not always display due initiative in developing topics revealing the legal and moral aspects of the consolidation of discipline and the heightened role, on this plane, of the party and Komsomol organizations and cultural enlightenment institutions. Questions such as the combination of ideological and organizational work, the study of people, the ability to influence them in the necessary direction and the improvement of mutual relations in service collectives need more skilled elucidation.

The results of the conference were summed up by Col Gen A. Lizichev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.